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'Man with 400 voices'

He's got the boom of Barry White and auditory swagger of Jagger PAGE 18

Do try this at home

Never mind the U.S. decorstore invasion: Some of the most interesting items are designed in Canada PAGE 23

HE PICKED WHAT?!?

Did anyone like Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome besides Roger Ebert? Metro pays tribute to the late film critic's more unorthodox choices





. THE GREAT

Oprah Winfrey points to an ebullient crowd at Scotiabank Place as she delivers a message of self actualization that she made popular on her television show. See story on page 4.

OC Transpo wants to green light Presto card

It's been a long ride.

Transit commission to decide on fate of transit smart card next Wednesday



ALEX BOUTILIER

Transpo management is recommending the city's transit commission finally green light the Presto card.

In a report to the commission, OC Transpo says the previously glitch-ridden system is now ready for full implementation.

We've taken a lot of time to iron out all of the kinks in the system," said Diane Deans, chair of the municipality's transit commission, adding she was satisfied Presto is good to go.

"The evidence comes from our transit riders that are

Accused pimp smeared by **Crown: Defence**

Lawyers say Facebook evidence shouldn't be used in court

"We've taken a lot of time to iron out all of the kinks in the system."

Diane Deans, municipal transit commission chair

using the system.... We have a 99 per cent tap rate. The handheld (fare inspectors) are working, the back-office financial system is reconciling, and so I do believe that it is ready."

It's been a long and bumpy road for the transit smart card, originally scheduled to be fully operational in June 2012. And it's been a costly road for Metrolinx, the provincial Crown corporation responsible for Presto, which has agreed to pay Ottawa between \$7 million and \$10 million for the delays.

But those headaches are apparently a thing of the past, at least according to the report heading to the commission next Wednesday.

Interoperability with STO? Check. "Robust" financial back office? Reconciliation at 100 per cent. Handheld fare inspectors? Operational.

The city's transit services department is recommending a full rollout, phased in over several months. Should the commission approve staff's recommendations, OC Transpo will begin with a targeted distribution to U-Pass holders on

The release to the general public will start May 18 through municipal service centre and Transitway stations. There will be no charge for the first 200,000 cards as a way of enticing transit users to make the jump.

Boycott over exclusion

Canada bows out of UN international criminal justice meeting for not including victims of Bosnia's war PAGE 11

Not making the grade

Canada is a country with a lot of overweight, potsmoking and bullied kids, according to UNICEF PAGE 12



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AA team. Mayor to continue to pitch Ottawa to Blue Jays

Mayor Jim Watson will continue the pitch to bring a AA Blue Jays affiliate to Ottawa in Toronto Friday.

Watson plans to meet Blue Jays management to talk about the possibility of bringing the New Hampshire Fisher Cats, the Blue Jays AA affiliate, to Ottawa for the 2014 season.

"This is a file that takes a lot longer than I originally estimated. Obviously there are a number of moving parts to the deal," said Watson on Wednesday.

Watson declined to elaborate on what's holding up the negotiations with the Eastern League to bring professional baseball back to Ottawa, saying only that the process is taking longer than he expected. The city previously expected to have an update on the file by the end of March or the beginning of April.

Watson did say, however, that the city hasn't been working with a drop-dead date for a deal before the 2014 season is out of the question. That decision, he said, rests with the Eastern League.

It's not a matter of selling the city to the team, according to Watson — the Blue Jays are "keen" on the Ottawa market.

"They like this market, they portray themselves as Canada's team, and I think it's a good fit to have a AA franchise located in the second largest city in the province," Watson said.

"A lot of people from Ottawa go to Jays games, and we think it would be a win-win situation to have the Jays affiliate as our AA."

ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

Get your parka out of the closet. Rain, ice pellets or up to 15 cm of snow forecast to hit city this week

We now interrupt this spring for a little more winter.

Ottawa is under a winterstorm watch, with freezing rain or snow expected Thursday and ice pellets or up to 15 centimetres of snow Friday.

"There is a 40 per cent chance of flurries (Thursday) afternoon, but the main event happens on Friday when we are expecting snow or ice pellets," said Peter Kimbell, a meteorologist for Environment Canada.

How deep we'll find ourselves in the white stuff depends on which form the precipitation takes when it falls.

"Ice pellets tend to compact a lot more than snow does, so if you get 10 millimetres of ice pellets, it amounts to a lot less than if you get 10 mm of snow," Kimbell said.

Either way, he warned, Friday will be a good day to avoid driving if you can.

Snow this time of year may seem excessively cruel, but it's common. Ottawa gets an average of 11 cm every April

"It's just not that common that you get a big dump of snow like this," Kimbell said.

Still, it could be worse. On April 1, 1993, Ottawa got a whopping 29 cm of snow.

"The good news," Kimbell added, "Is summer will come."

STEVE COLLINS/METRO

Facebook takes centre stage at trial

Teen-pimp case.

Defence takes issue with Crown using social media as evidence

Lawyers representing three girls being tried on charges they ran a prostitution ring in Ottawa accused the Crown Wednesday of smearing one of the teens with bad character evidence gathered from her Facebook profile.

The profile page belonging to one accused girl who was 16 at the time of the alleged offences contained posts like "ma whole team is strapped up and racked out" as well as photos of rappers and illicit drugs.

Defence lawyer Trevor Brown argued the Crown's portrayal of his client during Det. Carolyn Botting's testimony constituted bad character evidence and should not be used against her.

Crown lawyer Fara Rupert argued the evidence does not imply a bad character, rather it is necessary to demonstrate that "these young people were essentially acting as pimps."

She needed to rely on this piece of evidence, she argued, to prove her case because the SIM card in the accused's cell phone was destroyed.

In her view, that "deprived the Crown of that potential body of evidence."

Justice Diane Lahaie allowed the Crown to proceed with her line of questioning around the Facebook posts.

The three girls, who were 15 and 16 years old at the time of the alleged offences, cannot be identified due to a publication ban.

The girls are accused of luring girls as young as 13 and forcing them into prostitution. JOE LOFARO/METRO



Tall ambitions

Ottawa city council has given the go-ahead for a 42- to 45-storey condo on an area of Preston Street previously zoned for a mere 25-metre building. Council confirmed the city's planning committee recommendation to allow a 140-metre building at 505 Preston St. on Wednesday. In exchange for the increased density, developer Claridge Homes will kick the city \$1.1 million. Of that money, 40 per cent will go to the Hickory Street Bridge, 40 per cent to "public realm improvements," and 20 per cent to community improvements determined by the area councillor, Diane Holmes. Text: ALEX BOUTILIER / METRO, RENDERING: COURTESY CITY OF OTTAWA



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Oprah enthralls Ottawa audience

Standing O. TV host turned pop-culture icon delights fans at Scotiabank Place



Women of all ages and tax brackets jumped and gasped as Oprah, the larger-than-life self-made host and TV-network founder, took the stage at Scotiabank Place Wednesday, offering up the essence of her message —be your best self.

"Look at you! Look at you!" were Oprah's first words as the crowd got to its feet for a standing ovation and a man near the front row tried to pass the host a manuscript.

"Usually people get to

know me a little first," she quipped as an assistant took the weighty tome off his hands. "I feel honoured by your presence here tonight."

Some 15,000 fans, 90 per cent of them women, filled the arena.

"She's an inspiration. She really does the female story in a big way and keeps everything positive," said Katherine Jeans, a TV producer at Sound Venture Productions in Ottawa. "She tells the celebrity stories, but also tells the stories about the girl in the Third World country. Because she does that, we can all relate to her."

Jeans held a sign urging Oprah to keep her Oprah Winfrey Network in Canada, after the CRTC called in mid-March for more educational programming and Canadian stories on the network if it wants to stay in the country.

"Let's tell Canadian stories. We have some amazing stories," said Jeans. "Just because she's on our airwaves doesn't mean she can ignore us. It's not a free ride."

Oprah kicked the night off with a chat about her own humble beginnings.

"Every day you get to paint the canvas of your life," she told the audience, encouraging them to "reach their highest potential as a human being."

You may not respond to everything Oprah says, said longtime fan Sandy Clement, "but if there's one thing to take away from each episode of her show, it will help me do my job better and live my life better and that's what we're all here to do."

Follow Graham Lanktree on Twitter @MetroGraham





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Fans say Oprah-inspired event all about finding like-minded women

Ahead of Oprah's Ottawa Scotiabank Place appearance, 400 fans filled an event stuffed with inspirational speakers who you might find on an episode of her show, yet the largely female audience said it was the other women in the audience who prompted them to go.

"I want to learn and grow from all these women, who are doing great things in their careers. I see them as role models," said Michelle Newman, a young entrepreneur in her mid-20s, looking around at the other women at the Live Your Best Day event at the Brookstreet Hotel. "There are a lot of people here looking to grow their business, grow themselves and connect."

Her response is music to the ears of co-organizer Samantha Moonsammy, who jumped at the opportunity to celebrate her childhood role model when she learned in February Oprah was coming to Ottawa.

"I always say Oprah is an agent for change from a grassroots level," Moonsammy said. "You learn in

school that everything is done through a formal process like the government. What I learned from her is that she's an agent of change through everyday people."

As attendees had their hair styled at a station at the free, all-day event, Patti Murphy, the Ottawa Food Bank's director, communications and development, said Oprah's ability to reinvent herself has left an impression on a generation of women.

"There's lots of entrepreneurial women in the room," she said. "Oprah has reinvented herself, her business and her career so many times, so there are people who might recognize themselves in her that way.'

Why Oprah is a big deal for women may be lost on many men, so Murphy helped to explain: "For guys it might be hard to understand what Oprah means to women, but she's like a coach. She's that coach that you had that really made an impact and has that voice that you hear in your head every once in awhile.'

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO



Oprah's concert stop in **Ottawa inspired Twitterers** to tweet admiration, excitement and a healthy dose of snarky annoyance:

@the_tinajones

@metroottawa If I had her billions, I'd be living my best life

@RachelDecoste

Ottawa: the City that Originality forgot. Why @Oprah should get more than a hockey jersey. deevarachel.blogspot. ca/2013/04/itle-o... #Oprah #OttNews #OttCity

@FitzyP

With my sister @calfitzp, waiting for @Oprah! So excited to see her

@chrisquiroz

Thank you @Oprah for entertaining my wife tonight. Cereal for

dinner and videogames for me!!

@ErinBlaskie

Traffic around @scotiabankplace right now is CRAZY! You would think @oprah was in town or something;) http://t.co/ANT5g-

@TrishaOwens

Waiting for @Oprah to take to the stage @ScotiabankPlace. So much estrogen in this arena! http://t.

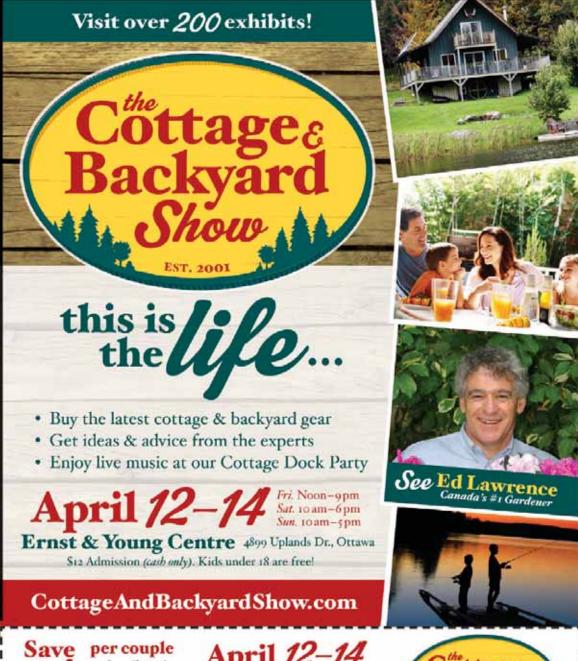
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@TaliaPapadakis

99.5% of #oprah fans at #scotiaplace are middle age females looking for house cleaning tips. Glad I'm not middle age ...

@louisataylorCIT

I'm here with diehard @Oprah fan Semira, who almost fainted when we found our seats. 10 rows from the front, dead centre. #Ottawa





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metr⊕ **NEWS** metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013

Investigation

Ontario's auditor general to look into OLG casino plans

Ontario's auditor general has agreed to probe Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp's plans to build new casinos after the cancellation of the province's slotsat-racetracks program.

The investigation will look into whether or not OLG was working on any one-off side deals with host municipalities something the Crown corporation has denied doing. It will also examine the cancellation of the slot-machine program at racetracks, which brought in \$345 million annually to provincial coffers. ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

Charges laid

Woman arrested after crashing into five OPP vehicles

A woman faces several charges after police allege a car drove into five of their vehicles in an Ontario Provincial Police parking

Police say it happened Tuesday morning at the Carleton Place OPP detachment, about 50 kilometres southwest of Ottawa.

It's alleged a car drove into the lot, hit a parked police vehicle and then drove into four others.

The car then moved to the front of the detachment, where the driver was arrested.

Angela Porteous, 36, of Carleton Place, is charged with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and five counts of mischief under \$5,000. She was remanded in custody and is due in court on Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

honour," said Jeremy Dias, founder of Jer's Vision: Canada's Youth Diversity Initiative, and its annual event, the International Day of Pink. "Like, 60,000 people got this and me? To be honest, the medal doesn't belong to me, it belongs to all these people who have donated their time."

Ontario Labour Minister Yasir Naqvi surprised Dias with the award at Wednesday's Day of Pink Gala in front of guests like former governor general Michaëlle Jean, Dutch Ambassador Wim Geerts and CBC host Jian Ghomeshi.

Dias, who started Jer's Vision with money won from suing his high school over bullying, racism and homophobia he suffered, is still surprised his charity's going strong after eight years.

"I can't even begin to describe how I feel," said "What do you do when you hit that many years? What do you do when you hit that level? Most businesses fail after two years and most charities fail after six months, and we've been here eight years!" STEVE COLLINS/METRO

Over the Rainbow runner-up Stephanie La Rochelle, left, joins Jer's Vision director Jeremy Dias, Canadian Olympian Mark Tewksbury and former governor general Michaëlle Jean during the International Day of Pink gala at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa Wednesday night. GIOVANNI/FOR METRO Shining bright

like a diamond on Day of Pink

Medal. Anti-bullying activist gets the royal treatment with Diamond Jubilee Medal

An Ottawa activist who helps to get millions of Canadians to wear pink every year to raise awareness of bullying and homophobia capped this year's Day of Pink with a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Iubilee Medal.

"Wow, this is a huge

Carleton students nearly ready for moon-buggy race

The final countdown has begun to the 2013 NASA Great Moon Buggy Race, in which 90 teams of students race their team-built contraptions across a simulated moonscape in Huntsville, Ala., and Carleton University's team is (almost) ready.

"We're on track to completing the buggy," said team project manager Liane Fonseca. "We should hopefully be done by the end of this week or early next week,

which leaves us about a week or so to test it."

Each team, some from as far away as India and Russia, builds its own musclepowered buggy and picks two members, one male and one female, to pilot it.

"In some years they've actually finished construction about two days before heading to the races, so this is actually pretty good," Fonseca

Once in Huntsville, the

teams face off on a gruelling track designed to mimic the surface of the moon.

"Essentially, the track is designed to break your body," Fonseca said. "Finishing the race is a big accomplishment.

Carleton's record in the race is mixed. They've finished third overall before, but also got the award one year for "most spectacular failure."

"I believe we got a NASA life vest for that accomplish-



ment," Fonseca said STEVE COLLINS/METRO

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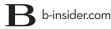
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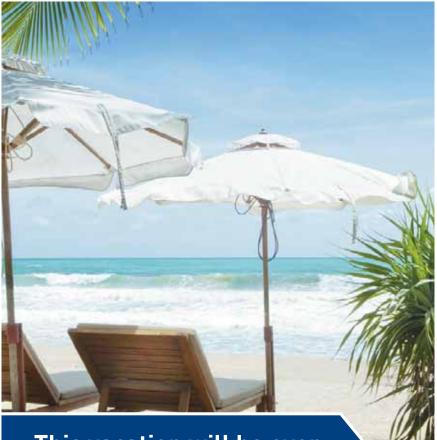
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riends and Carleton University science-lab partners Logan Seaman and Thomas Villeneuve hope to create a genetically

Crops glow to show when they can't grow

Grassroots biotech.

Students look to turn science project into real-life product



GRAHAM LANKTREE

Spliced with the DNA of bioluminescent marine bacteria, crops that glow when low in nutrients could be key to helping farmers around the world produce better yields, say two young Ottawa entrepreneurs.

"You don't really see grassroots biotech," said 22-yearold Logan Seaman, who along with friend Thomas Villeneuve intends to turn a fourth-year biotechnology science project into a real-life product.

"We pitched the idea to the class and our professor approached us afterward and proposed that it could work in real life."

Now the two have turned to online fundraising site Indiegogo to raise \$20,000 to go beyond the initial stage of their research.

"You can raise funds without them saying they need results right now," said Seaman, who was inspired to pursue the project after seeing the impact of hunger on a trip to Kenya last summer.

How it works

- The plan is to genetically modify a crop, such as corn, so that when it becomes low in a specific nutrient it begins to glow.
- This will alert farmers who don't have fancy soil-testing equipment to what their plants crave.

"It lets you know exactly when and how much fertilizer to apply," said Villeneuve, pointing out that farmers will always know if their crops are growing at maximum capacity.

Layoffs. Stats Can soft-pedals cuts as economist argues for transparency

A report that says Statistics Canada could lose 35 per cent of its staff by 2016 is inaccurate, the department said Tuesday. Yet the author of the report argues the dispute over numbers underscores precisely why the government needs to be more open about its layoff plans.

"It would be great to see this kind of transparency at Human Resources and Skills Development Canada," said David Macdonald, a senior economist at the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) on receiving more numbers on projected cuts from Stats Can. "It's unfortu-



nate we have to go through such a rigomorole to get that clarification."

In a report released Monday titled The Fog Finally Clears, Macdonald used data from 180 federal departments that laid out staffing reductions. Crunching the numbers, he calculated the staff losses in the public service will be larger than the government's projection of 19,200 layoffs by 2016.

Gabrielle Beaudoin, director general of communications at Statistics Canada, said in an email response to the findings of Macdonald's study that the report is misleading.

Beaudoin pegged the true departmental losses at 11 per cent, "which is in line with those in other government departments and agencies," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013

Local muggle university to vie in top wizard sporting event

Quidditch. Harry Potter's favourite sport enchants U of O



STEVE COLLINS ottawa@metronews.ca

The University of Ottawa goes a little Hogwarts this weekend, as a team of students mount their brooms for the Quidditch World Cup in Kissimmee, Fla.

The sport is an earthbound version of the fictional game made famous by the Harry Potter books and movies. More than 600 teams in 24 countries play in the league.

"One of the things that surprises people most about it when they come to see a game is how aggressive it is," said team president Clare Hutchinson. "It's a full-contact sport."

Injuries are common, she said, especially concussions: "Last year's world cup required 18 ambulance runs and I'm hoping this one requires slightly fewer."

While teams at McGill and Carleton also qualified for the world cup, they couldn't get out of exams to attend. The University of Ottawa, Hutchinson said, granted about 20 exam deferrals to team members so they could play.

The sport, she said, attracts all types.

"I myself am a very big Harry Potter fan and it initially did appeal to me because it was really cool and creative and it did have to do with Harry Potter, but we have people on our team who've never read the books before."







metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013 **NEWS**

Mercy plea denied

Man who raped. killed baby set to die

A parole board on Wednesday rejected a plea for mercy by a condemned man who says he intended to rape his girlfriend's six-month-old daughter, but not to kill her, calling his crime "among the worst of the worst.'

The Ohio Parole Board recommended unanimously that Gov. John Kasich allow

the execution of Steven Smith to proceed next month.

The board said some arguments for sparing Smith, such as his turbulent childhood, were far outweighed by the nature of

Smith's attorneys argued the victim died because Smith was too drunk to realize his assault was killing her. And Ohio law is clear, they said: A death sentence requires an intent to kill. The associated press

Sexsomnia

Man acquitted of groping in his sleep

A Danish man has been acquitted of molesting two 17-year-old girls after he was found to suffer from a rare sleep disorder known as "sexsomnia."

The Glostrup court said Wednesday that the man fondled the teenagers while sleeping in his suburban Copenhagen apartment after a party in 2011.

The girls awoke and interrupted the man, and later reported him to police. But the court cleared the 31-year-old of sex-crime charges, saying medical tests show he suffers from "sexsomnia," in which a person engages in sexual activity while asleep.

Michael Laub, a Danish sleep specialist who wasn't involved in the case, said it's a rare but widely recognized sleep disorder.

The defendant said he had no recollection of what happened. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Syria. U.S. may send rebels more military aid

The Obama administration is expected to give Syrian rebels broader non-lethal assistance, including body armour and night-vision goggles, while stopping short of providing weapons to help fight President Bashar Assad.

The timing and scope of the stepped-up aid package is unclear. U.S. President Barack Obama has not given final approval, and an announcement is not imminent, according to a senior administration official, who requested ano-

Secretary of State John Kerry, who met with Syrian opposition leaders on Wednesday, hinted at quick action, saying broader assistance for the rebels has been "front and centre" in recent discussions.

Obama has resisted pressure to arm the rebels, partly out of fear that the weapons could fall into the hands of fighters who have allied with Islamic extremists.

Underscoring that concern, the leader of the most formidable rebel group pledged allegiance on Wednesday to al-Qaida. The associated press

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N. Korea cleans up with world on alert

As the world braced for a provocative missile launch by North Korea, with newscasts worldwide playing up tensions on the Korean Peninsula, the centre of the storm was strangely calm.

The focus in Pyongyang on Wednesday was less on preparing for war and more on beautifying the capital ahead of the nation's biggest holiday: the April 15 birthday of the nation's founder, Kim Il-sung. Soldiers put down their rifles to blanket the barren ground

with sod, and students picked up shovels to help plant trees.

But the impoverished, tightly controlled nation, which has historically drawn the world's attention on holidays by showing off its military power, could well mark the occasion by testing a missile designed to strike U.S. military installations in Japan and Guam.

South Korea's foreign minister said the prospect of a medium-range missile launch is "considerably high."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



with South Korea, near its northern border. AHN YOUNG-JOON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada boycotts UN justice meeting

War crimes.

Ambassadors protest Bosnian victim being thrown out of meeting

Canada, the United States and Jordan boycotted a meeting on international criminal justice organized by the Serbian president of the General Assembly on Wednesday, offended that it didn't include Bosnia's war victims, and attacked the UN war-crimes tribunal for the former Yugo-

To protest the victims' exclusion, the UN ambassadors from Jordan and Liechtenstein hosted a press conference for two victims groups - the Mothers of Srebrenica and the Association of Witnesses and Survivors of Genocide — while assembly president Vuk Jeremic, the former foreign minister of Serbia, presided over the assembly meeting.

Munira Subasic, president of the Mothers of Srebrenica, who lost 22 close family members in the 1995 mas-

sacre by Bosnian Serbs, said she was allowed into the assembly meeting as "a silent observer." She listened as Serbia's ultranationalist president Tomislav Nikolic criticized the Yugoslav tribu-

She believed that Nikolic was denying the genocide in Srebrenica, so she said she put on a T-shirt she had brought as a gift for Secretary-Ğeneral Ban Ki-moon, which said: "Justice Is Slow But It's Reachable."

"All of a sudden I was surrounded by security of Vuk Jeremic" and escorted out of the conference room, Subasic

In a lengthy speech soon after, Serbia's Nikolic protested against the "lynchmobbing of Serbia" and accused the Yugoslav tribunal of "selective justice" by seeking to punish Serbs while overlooking the crimes of Bosnians and Croats.

Aware of the controversy, Ban gave his "full and unequivocal support" to all international tribunals in an opening speech.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Proper process

"Supporting the tribunals and courts means respecting — and not calling into question their independence, impartiality and integrity."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, in defence of war-crimes tribunals

metr⊕ **NEWS** metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013

Is Canada failing its children?

Nation ranks 17th out of 29 wealthy countries when it comes to the well-being of our children, according to a new study from UNICEF, the United Nations children's agency.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Photos: Torstar News Service/Getty Images/The Canadian Press File

Ranking 'isn't good enough': **ÚNICEF** Canada

UNICEF graded the 29 countries in five categories and Canada's best ranking was 11th in the area of housing and environment. David Morley, UNICEF Canada's president and CEO, says the report shows there's a lot of work to be done.

'The fact that our children rank in the bottom half when compared to other industrialized nations simply isn't good enough," Morley said.

Youth smoking pot. not smokes

Canada scored third-best on smoking, with UNICEF saying only four per cent of children aged 11, 13 and 15 reported smoking at least once a week.

The same can't be said for cannabis, with Canada sitting 29th and last with 28 per cent of children saying they have used cannabis within the past year.





Bullying still a major concern

Canada ranked 21st in bullying, with 35 per cent of children aged 11, 13 and 15 reporting being bullied at school at least once in the past couple of months.

More than 1 in 5 have bloated BMI

When it comes to obesity, Canada is third from the bottom, with 20.24 per cent of children aged 11, 13 and 15 deemed overweight based on the body





A substandard well-beina

Canada ranked 14th in educational well-being, 15th in material well-being, 16th in behaviour and risks and a low 27th in health and safety. "It is clear Canada can do better," Morley said. "Protecting and promoting the well-being of our children must become a national priority.'

My Bikini Plan

Breakfast: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in

low-fat milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed,

Lunch: I bowl of vegetable broth

Dinner: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in

unsweetened almond milk with 2 teaspoons of

oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive) and I teaspoon

Dutch top list as Canada plummets

The Netherlands remains the overall leader in the study and is the only country ranked among the top five in all dimensions of child well-being.

Meanwhile, Canada's overall ranking drops seven places to 24th when children's views of their own life satisfaction are measured. Only five Eastern European countries rank lower than Canada in this category.

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metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013



Alberta premier dismisses \$40 'magic number'

Carbon tax. Redford's government agrees current \$15 levy may need to be raised

Alberta Premier Alison Redford is pouring cold water on reports her government already has a dollar amount in mind for an increase to its carbon levy on industry.

Redford is in Washington talking up Alberta's environmental policies to support the approval of the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline.

The premier has repeatedly stressed Alberta's existing \$15-per-tonne carbon tax on large emitters that don't meet a 12 per cent intensity-reduction target. Recent leaked

reports suggest Alberta could move to a 40 per cent intensity-reduction target with penalties of \$40 per tonne.

But Redford warned that no one should presume that will be the final target. "I know there have been reports that that's somehow a magic number," she said Wednesday. "In our minds it's not."

Alberta consistently points to its carbon levy as unique in North America, but critics question its effectiveness.

Groups such as the Pembina Institute suggest the levy actually works out to less than a couple of dollars per tonne averaged over an industrial facility's entire carbon output. Companies can also buy carbon offsets, some of which cost as little as \$8 a tonne. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Climate change. Canada giving \$10M to coalition

The federal government is putting another \$10 million into a global coalition to reduce short-lived climate pollutants — substances such as soot, methane and hydrofluorocarbons that emit greenhouse gases.

Environment Minister Peter Kent said Canada would also be putting \$2.5 million towards a centre launched by the United Nations to help developing countries find the best technology to confront the challenges of climate

Quoted

"As an Arctic nation, Canada understands the importance of addressing short-lived climate pollutants, which have an impact on the rate of Arctic ice melt."

Environment Minister Peter Kent, at the Canadian embassy in the U.S. capital.

change. THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. Supreme Court

'Heart is broken,' says top court's 2nd black justice

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas says he is heartbroken over the poverty and social troubles among many black communities.

Thomas is the second black justice on the top U.S. court. He spoke Tuesday at

Duquesne Law School. He said his "heart is broken."

He said he's seen terrible decline in some black communities, and "virtually every crime is drug-related." Thomas said many young people have no families and no education, and numerous anti-poverty programs have failed.

Thomas said the U.S. should "at least fess up and say something is wrong."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York City

Weiner weighing run for mayor

Former U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, who resigned over a sexting scandal in 2011, says he's weighing a run for New York City mayor this year.

The Democrat said his political committee spent more than \$100,000 on polling and research.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





Docs often not told of side-effects by drug reps: Study

Public health concern.

Minimum standard for drug safety info met in less than 2% of company sales calls

Most family doctors say they receive little or no information about harmful effects of medications when visited by drugcompany sales representatives promoting their products, a survey of Canadian, U.S. and French physicians has found.

Even so, many of the doctors surveyed said they were likely to start prescribing or increase prescriptions of promoted drugs following sales-rep visits, consistent with previous research that shows prescribing behaviour is influenced by



always told of harmful effects by

pharmaceutical companies' promotion.

"Harm from medication use is a serious public-health concern," said Barbara Mintzes, principal researcher of a survey study. "So the information quality, and doctors getting complete information on medicines, is important.

For the study, published online Wednesday in the Journal of General Internal Medicine, the researchers asked 255 family doctors in Montreal, Vancouver, Sacramento and Toulouse, France, to fill out a questionnaire each time they were visited by a drug-company rep.

In all, the physicians provided information on almost 1,700 drug promotions between May 2009 and June 2010.

Pharmaceutical sales reps regularly visit doctors' offices to promote their products, providing information, often free samples and, in some cases, food and invitations to events. Since 2005, France has prohibited free drug samples and gifts to doctors.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bullied teen. Family of Rehtaeh Parsons says they were failed by system

The family of a 17-year-old girl that has gone public about her suicide after months of bullying say they were stymied at practically every turn when they tried to get help for the troubled teen.

Jason Barnes, the longtime boyfriend of Rehtaeh Parsons' mother, said a sad string of failures ultimately led to the girl's death more than a year after she was allegedly sexually assaulted by four boys.

"No matter where her mother turned to try to get help for her, no matter where Rehtaeh tried to turn to get help, all she had was her family," Barnes said on Wednesday.

"The justice system failed us completely. The education system didn't seem to do much

of anything."
The RCMP say they investigated the sexual-assault allegations after consulting with the province's Public Prosecution Service but concluded there weren't enough grounds to lay charges.

"She was very upset, very



says it took a hands-off approach in the alleged assault of Re Parsons, not wanting to interfere with

devastated from that," Barnes

Earlier in the day, Rehtaeh's family met with Nova Scotia Justice Minister Ross Landry after he announced Tuesday night that his department was looking for ways to review how the RCMP handled the allegations. The canadian press

Canadian rocker

Woman had 'sick relationship' with Tim Bachman

A co-founder of iconic Canadian rock band Bachman-Turner Overdrive had a sexual relationship with a girl between the age of 11 and 14, a judge was told this week in B.C. Supreme Court, where Tim Bachman is on trial for sexual assault and sexual interference of a person under 14. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Birth-control recall

Gynecology group warns Alysena 28 users

Women who may have taken birth-control pills from faulty packs should use a backup form of contraception, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada said on Wednesday. Women may also need to talk to their doctors about taking a pregnancy test. The canadian press



Omega-3 Fatty Acids

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Choose

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> Pelvic Inflammatory Disease

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Putin mistakenly banned from Finland

Finished with the Finnish? Interior minister offers the Russian president her 'sincerest apologies'

Vladimir Putin, banned in Finland?

Finnish police say the Rus-

sian president's name was mistakenly placed on a secret criminal register that could theoretically have gotten him arrested at the border.

It was reported Wednesday that Putin was placed there due to his contact with the Russian motorcycle gang Night Wolves, though he wasn't suspected of a crime in Finland.

But National Police Board

Quoted

"This kind of incident is extremely exceptional and is not acceptable under any circumstances."

Mikko Paatero, head of Finland's national police force

spokesman Robin Lardot said the listing was a mistake and that Putin's name was removed from the list.

"The National Police Board has investigated the case and indeed found that such a mistaken entry was in the register," Lardot said.

"We have ordered it to be removed and are investigating the case very thoroughly. We don't know how it got there."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Unusual target

Circus elephant survives drive-by shooting injury

Authorities say a Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus elephant was hit by a bullet in a drive-by shooting in Tupelo, Miss.

Circus spokeswoman Melinda Hartline says the elephant, named Carol, was not seriously hurt, and no other animals were harmed.

Police Chief Tony Carleton says a vehicle drove past the arena about 2 a.m. and fired into the area. Police are investigating.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Austria

Party spokesman fired over Nazi Facebook post

Austria's rightist FPO party has dismissed the spokesman of its Vienna branch for allegedly posting excerpts from a battle song of Hitler's elite Waffen-SS units on Facebook.

The party says Stefan Gotschacher has been terminated "with immediate effect" while they investigate. Gotschacher has said he did not know the origin of the passages. But an FPO statement Wednesday said such sentiments "have no place" in the party.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'One of the worst things I've seen.' Puppy tied to train tracks in California

Officials say a 78-year-old man tied a puppy to train tracks in the California desert, and an engineer had to use emergency brakes to keep from crushing it.

Riverside County animal control said Tuesday that Banjo, a 10-month-old poodle-terrier mix, is fine and up for adoption.

Ûnion Pacific Special Agent Sal Pina responded and called the scene "one of the worst things I've seen."

Pina untied Banjo and detained the man, who said his family didn't want the dog and didn't know what to do.

Pina says he couldn't pursue charges against the unidentified man because he appeared confused and didn't understand what he'd done

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013 metr⊕ **BUSINESS**

Porter seeks to land jets on T.O. waterfront

Controversial plan.

Airline's request to change rules is bound to draw residents' ire

Porter Airlines says it will seek permission to fly Bombardier CS100 jets out of Toronto's small waterfront airport and hopes to begin serving destinations across North America after the first new planes are delivered in 2016.

Jets are currently not allowed to fly out of the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, which is on an island near the city's lakefront, except under special circumstances.

However, the airline said Wednesday it will seek to have the rules changed so that it can fly the jets to destinations such as Vancouver, Los Angeles and Florida that its current fleet of turboprops can't reach.

Porter said it will also seek permission to extend the main runway at the airport by 168

Pilfering in Paris

closes Louvre

Pickpocket protest

The Louvre was closed Wed-

nesday as workers walked

off their jobs to protest

what's said to be a rising

problem of pickpockets

haunting the museum's vast

galleries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ent and CEO of Porter Airlines, sits with Bo president Mike Arcamone in a Bombardier CS100 aircraft Wednesday, Deluce nced the airline's purchase of 12 of the planes, with an option for a further 18, at a news conference in Toronto. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

metres at each end. The current rules are part of a tripartite agreement between the City of Toronto, the federal government and the Toronto Port Authority - making it difficult to get quick action from the necessary authorities.

However, Porter president and chief executive Robert Deluce said Porter expects to have all the needed approvals within six months that will allow the airline to create 1,000 new jobs.

Industry analyst Robert Kokonis said there's a big risk that Porter's plans will never happen because of expected opposition to the airport expansion from Toronto residents and environmentalists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horsemeat scandal

Dutch recall mystery meat

Dutch authorities are recalling 50,000 tons of meat sold as beef across Europe because its exact source cannot be established and it may contain horsemeat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Banking secrecy

Luxembourg helps fight tax evasion

Luxembourg is to start exchanging information with the rest of Europe to help fight tax evasion, in a bid to make the country's massive financial sector more transparent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.K. Retailers ration baby milk powder to cope with surge in Chinese demand

Demand for baby milk formula is surging in Britain, but it seems likely the powder is going to babies thousands of miles away.

British retailers said Wednesday they are limiting purchases of baby milk powder to two tins per customer after noticing some people were buying unusually large quantities in stores, apparently to export to China for profit.

Danone, the dairy manufacturer, said it has significantly increased production of powthe bulk-buying trend.

"We understand that the increased demand is a result of unofficial exports to China to satisfy the needs of Chinese parents who want international brands for their babies, Danone, which makes Aptamil and Cow & Gate baby formulas, said in a statement.

Baby formula made by foreign brands is in great demand in China, where parents have been wary of local dairy products since a contaminated milk

its approximately 900 locations nationwide. **metro**



Sticky situation

BMO lauded for

being nice to mice BMO is getting a Compassionate Company Award and a big box of vegan

chocolates shaped like mice

from People for the Ethical

Treatment of Animals. After

glue traps to kill mice, BMO

learning from PETA about

the cruelty of using sticky

banned the devices from







Natural gas: \$4.10 US (+8¢) Dow Jones: 14,802.24 (+128.78)

scandal left six babies dead in dered baby milk in response to 2008. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS otamil Aptamil Aptamil Aptamil

Carriers split from wireless lobby

Three of Canada's new wireless carriers say they will better serve their customers outside the industry's main lobby group, which they accuse of favouring Rogers, Bell and Telus.

Wind Mobile, Public Mobile and Mobilicity accused the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association of consistently

taking positions that favour Canada's big three carriers.

'There's no negative impact on consumers here whatsoever," said Bob Boron, senior vice-president and chief legal and regulatory officer at Public Mobile. "We feel like we are going to do a better job in lobbying and making positions

known before decision makers and policy makers as a result of us exiting the association.'

Public Mobile, Wind Mobile and Mobilicity don't ask customers to sign contracts for mobile phones and have brought more competition to the market since launching about three years ago. The canadian press

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NEWS NOT FIT FOR PRINT

I have a lot of esteemed titles — freelance writer, ex-husband, that guy in Metro — but none bring me more respect than editor-in-chief of Canada's most dignified newspaper, The Beaver Examiner.

Perhaps you've heard of it. With mission statements to "keep fake news real" and "treat every week like shark week," The BeEx has been bringing insightful Canadian news to reader(s) since 2005, updated any time — day or nightonce every several months.

As you'll see below, The Beaver Examiner is unencumbered by fact-checking, spelchecking or any of the other quaint traditions that hold back so many newspapers (seven worldwide as of press time). Enjoy and be enlightened!

The Beaver Examiner News Briefs: Proudly Independent From Facts

Rescuers Say 751,171 People Stranded In New Brunswick NEAR THE N.B. BORDER - Emergency crews are being urgently dispatched to the province of New Brunswick today, after it was discovered that 751,171 people have been stranded there for the



John Mazerolle

metronews.ca

Rescuers said they are having a difficult time accessing the area, due to a lack of affordable airfare and fear of becoming stranded themselves.

"We're hoping for the best, but we hear there may be 69,000 people in Moncton alone," said rescue co-ordinator Kerry Chandler, choking back tears.

Chandler said it was the most shocking disaster he and his staff can recall since rescuers stumbled upon several million people crammed into squalid conditions in downtown Toronto.

Unusually Skilled Witness to Shooting Knew Immediately Gunshots Were Gunshots VANCOUVĚR – Burnaby resident Tom Mayer, a skilled witness to tragedy and unusually adept

innocent passerby, knew immediately that a gunshot he heard while leaving a bar in the Vancouver downtown was a gunshot.

"I heard a 'pop, pop' sound and I thought 'gunshots!' right away," the wise-beyond-his-peers Mayer said. "Definitely not a firecracker, firework, or car backfiring." Mayer said the tragedy that injured four didn't seem at all like an action movie, "because

Mayer said he picked up his witnessing acumen years ago when he saw a Cessna crash that he knew instantly had nothing to do with terrorism.

Prone Man Criticizes Goaltender's Positioning WINNIPEG - Rick McHutchion, a Manitoba man who had been lying on his back on his couch for almost three hours, expressed disgust at the positioning of Winnipeg Jets goaltender Ondřej Pavelec during Tuesday's game against the Buffalo Sabres.

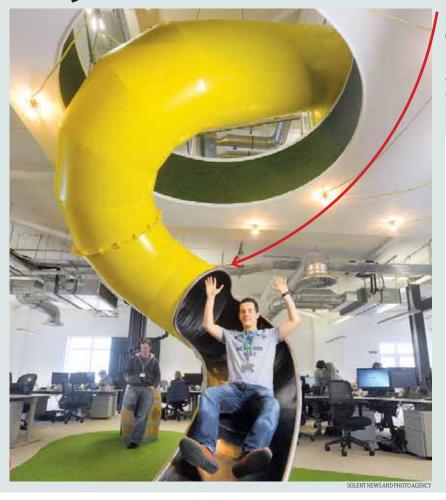
"He looks terrible out there," said McHutchion, as he fished awkwardly for the final chip in a bag resting on his ample stomach. "He should be embarrassed."

McHutchion added that the Winnipeg defence is lazy, and that he'd change the channel in disgust if the remote wasn't so far away.

And that's a look at the award-wanting news coverage The Beaver Examiner brings every single day that I feel like it.

Check in next week when we'll examine a new survey that shows that nine out of 10 government scientists, when asked about being "muzzled" by the federal government, said "Mphm! Mphm!

Why take the stairs when ...



... sliding into the office is a breeze

British IT company Peer 1 Hosting has unleashed the most enjoyable office ever. Their design makeover came complete with cinema, pub, pool table, golf course, tree house and giant helter-skelter

ther fun offices

- Google: Zurich. It's fitting that the tech giants put effort into their office. There is a rule to be never more than 100 metres from food, while an aquarium and library provide relaxation.
- Comvert: Milan. The clothing company has an indoor skating rink suspended above their desks to blow off steam.
- DTAC: Bangkok. Mobilephone providers have a whole building and a floor for activities, featuring indoor soccer, table tennis, running track and concert hall.
- Selgas Cano: Madrid. This architecture firm has designed their building to blend into the Spanish



Most of us amateurs have strengthened our Instagram chops considerably since those heady early days of documenting pets, parks and undeserving food. But we still have a long way to go before catching up to these iPhone-slinging pros.

AikBeng Chia:

With iPhone in pocket, AikBeng Chia wanders the streets of Singapore to provide a series of all-hours glimpses of the city's people, art and architec-ture. @aikbengchia

Robert Paul Jansen: A Dutch photographer who whiles away his spare hours by shooting the

beautiful, frequently fog-shrouded Netherlands landscape. @robertpauliansen

Benedicte Guillon:

 $A\,Paris\,street\,photographer\,with\,an$ uncanny eye for capturing one of the world's most photogenic cities. Vacation vicariously in your pocket. @iphoneographic

@metropicks asked: @Oprah is in trouble for backing skin cream derived from baby foreskins. What's your not-so-sketchy beauty secret?

@MisterInsight: I don't use any product, natural beauty is as fine as it comes

@jpadamson: Coconut oil as a hair conditioner and as a moisturizer. Smells great! Moisturizing! And you smell delicious!

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

RE: Daredevil Raccoon Performs High-Wire Stunt, published April 9

I can have positivity with regards to raccoons. I'm positive they are a health hazard. I'm positive they are a pest. I'm positive there needs to be a raccoon control program.

Myworkisdonehere posted to metronews.ca

VE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: end us your comments: ottawaletters@metronews.ca



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It's a one man hit parade

Comedy. 'Man with 400 Voices' brings his unique mimicry skills to the stage



BACKSTAGE PASS Samantha Everts ottawa@metronews.ca

Long before Psy became a cultural icon by mimicking bourgeois South Koreans, a Canadian comic was channelling his skills as an expert impressionist in an act that would have trumped Gangnam Style.

When André-Philippe Gagnon performed the song We are the World (as all the singers) on Johnny Carson in 1985, the then-unknown comic from Loretteville, Que., shot to international fame.

He has since taken his unique talents as far as China and the Vancouver Olympics.

This Saturday he brings his One Man Hit Parade show — a self-proclaimed chronology of the history of rock and roll — to Centrepointe Theatre.

"Turns out I'm a little bit like a human jukebox — or iPod depending on the era," said Gagnon with a laugh.

It's precisely that element of surprise that has turned Gagnon's unique mimicry skills into a career with more longevity than any YouTube trend.

"I actually do Psy," said Gagnon. "I can't do it without dancing like him."

The "Man with 400 Voices" began his career in elementary school by doing Tweety Bird impressions to



avoid bullies.

"It was easier to hide behind a character if you were being silly," said Gagnon, who has always loved musical celebrities like David Bowie and Bruce Springsteen.

"When it's going to be very difficult to get a voice, I'll over-exaggerate to a caricature. If it's not precise you want it to be funny."

Physical comedy has also

been important to the delivery of the voice.

His Mick Jagger always wins over crowds and he's happy to share how: "Make a flying movement like a wounded chicken while you stick out your butt, then you puff up your lips like you have silicone in (them) and in the end just strut like a rooster."

Gagnon isn't just strutting on the stage though;

the show is interactive with a modern LED display and opportunities for audience members to challenge his skills directly.

"I take an audience member to make the perfect song," said Gagnon. "Any night you could have Barry White dancing as Michael Jackson to the song Unforgettable."

Don't miss this unforgettable experience.

See him perform

- Show: Saturday, April 13, 8 p.m., at Centrepointe Theatre (101 Centrepointe Dr.)
- **Info:** Visit andrephilippegagnon.com



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Thursday, April 11, 2013

Roger Ebert defended the indefensible

Reviewing his reviews. A look at the more controversial selections from the former film critic

MATT PRIGGE Metro World New

Reflections in a Golden Eye (1967)

One of the first things he did, as a fresh-faced 25-year-old, was do what all critics ought to do: stand up for a movie that no one liked and whose studio was doing its best to suppress. John Huston's film was an on-simmer survey of a Southern army base, populated by a closeted major (Marlon Brando) and his jilting wife (Elizabeth Taylor).

Ebert's review describes the hostile atmosphere at the screening and praised Brando's performance as his best in a period during which he



Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia (1974)

Though it's today (mostly) acknowledged as one of Sam Peckinpah's masterpieces, his grimy, bad tequila-soaked, fly-ridden tale of a man (Warren Oates) who literally has to bring someone the head of a guy named Alfredo Garcia was once considered a legendary bomb.

Ebert was among the prescient, not to mention perceptive, calling it "some kind of bizarre masterpiece."



Roger Ebert was the most famous film critic in the world, but he was also a film critic, which is to say fallible.

For all the classics he praised right out of the gate, or the ones he collected in his ever-swelling canon of The Great Movies, he got some wrong, or simply added to the dogpile on films, like Ishtar or Heaven's Gate, that could

have used a powerful friend.

But it's easy — and smug
— to admonish critics for
missing the boat when one
has 20/20 hindsight.

(And easier still to neglect that having a major player say Blue Velvet was crap actually enriched the discussion of the film by forcing its fans to better articulate their praises.) But let's not dwell on his so-called failures, which ought not even to be called that

In honour of his recent passing, let's look at several films that everyone — or almost everyone — either hated or treated with apathy except that guy at the Chicago Sun-Times who was on that show with the skinny guy.



Synecdoche, New York (2008)

Roger Ebert wasn't the only person to highly praise Charlie Kaufman's highly divisive directorial debut, but he was one of the few to almost put it on his all time top 10. He didn't but that's praise nonetheless.

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FRESH THIS SPRING



Dawn of the Dead (1979)

Horror rarely gets a good rap, unless it's high-toned and made by established artists (Rosemary's Baby, The Exorcist.) Ebert praised George A. Romero's no-budget Night of the Living Dead back in 1967, and he threw his full four stars at its mall-set sequel.

He wrote: "It is gruesome, sickening, disgusting,



violent, brutal and appalling. It is also (excuse me for a second while I find my other list) brilliantly crafted, funny, droll, and savagely merciless in its satiric view of the American consumer society."



Saint Jack (1979)

Ebert was a staunch defender of the terrific Saint Jack, in which Ben Gazzara plays a Singapore pimp trying to eke by. At one point Gazzara pisses off local hoodlums, who tattoo his arms with vulgarities, which Ebert described as "a more diabolical and satisfactory form of gangland revenge than the concrete overcoat."

Femme Fatale (2002)

At the time it was slammed by the majority of publications and bombed.

Ebert was blunt about it. "This is pure filmmaking, elegant and slippery. I haven't had as much fun second-guessing

a movie since Mulholland



Drive."

Yes, and good job finding the right contemporary movie to which to compare it

Dark City (1998)

No one else of note had spoken of it as highly as Ebert did, and the film bombed, but he stuck by his guns, affording it a second, even third life. Ebert even recorded a commentary track for the DVD and would tour around with it for special screenings.

Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome (1984)

To Ebert, who wrote trash cinema himself, it was just part of the business of loving movies. He afforded masterpiece status to the third in George Miller's Mad Max series, claiming that Thunderdome, the centerpiece arena, "is the



first really original movie idea about how to stage a fight since we got the first karate movies."

The Cotton Club (1984)

Every film needs a defender, even the so-called indefensible, and for this Ebert was the man.

"It has the confidence and momentum of a movie where every shot was premeditated — and even if we know that wasn't the case, and this was one of the most troubled productions in recent movie history,



what difference does that make when the result is so entertaining?" metr⊕ metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013

It's no Mama, but she does hump a chair

Scary Movie 5. Ashley Tisdale faced some challenges while making the latest instalment of the horror flick spoof

NED **EHRBAR**

Here's a challenge most actors don't have to face: Doing last-minute reshoots that constitute more than half of the main plot of the movie. But that's exactly what Ashley Tisdale found herself faced with when her bosses on Scary Movie 5 decided they needed their spoof to be more up-to-date and worked in some digs at this year's horror hits Mama and Evil Dead. And they had to work fast. Of course, some of that might be Tisdale's own fault, though.

"I saw Mama opening weekend," Tisdale remembers. "I came out of there and I texted the producers, 'Oh



my gosh, like we should really be spoofing Mama because it just worked so well.' And then (writer) Phil (Beauman) was like, 'Funny, we're actually going to spoof Mama.' So then we saw it again."

By the actress' estimation, the additional material spoofing Mama and Evil Dead - based solely on seeing the trailer — accounted for about 60 per cent of the finished movie, done over about 10 days of filming.

Before signing on for the latest in the Scary Movie franchise, Tisdale was admittedly far from a horror fan.

"I have always been really

scared of scary movies just because I live by myself, and seeing something, then having a big imagination and then thinking you see it in the middle of the night (is terrifying)," she says.

"So I've never been really into them. But it's funny because doing this movie, now

"I have always been really scared of scary movies just because I live by myself, and seeing something, then having a big imagina-tion and then thinking you see it in the middle of the night (is terrifying.)"

Ashley Tisdale Talking about working on Scary Movie 5.

I like them. Now I'll go watch Mama, because then I see things and I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, that's so spoof-able.' Because sometimes it's just so ridiculous.'

But not nearly as ridiculous as simulating sex with household objects, something Tisdale was called on to do to excess for one overstuff montage in Scary Movie 5 with some covered during the initial filming and some added in at the last minute. It proved to be a steep learning

"I had humped a potted plant in Atlanta, and that was nerve-wracking," she remem-

"There was only one camera guy and they kept it really quiet so it was OK. But by the time I got to having to be with the chair and the microwave and all over the place, I was just like, 'Oh, I've got this. It's fine that everybody's watching."

That earned confidence

didn't mean the performance was easy, though.

"I do recall having the hardwood chair hitting me from behind and I looked from behind and I was all into it. And then suddenly, I was just like, 'I'm getting slammed by a chair right now,' and I started hysterically laughing," she says, adding that the chair's enthusiasm

was provided by a prop guy.
"They're like, 'Do it harder!' And I'm like, 'It's hard wood. It hurts.' I wish there was a camera on the prop guy who was probably like jamming it behind me. It just was so wrong."



Barrymore takes a bet on the booze

Hand me the cork. **Drew.** The actress and entrepreneur sets her sights on the wine world

MEREDITH ENGEL Metro World News

Between making movies, working on a new makeup line and raising her baby, Drew Barrymore could certainly use a glass of wine at the end of the day.

Now, when that mood strikes, she's got just the bottle to turn to - her new Barrymore Wines.

We asked her what went into it.

How long have you had the idea to create your own

I have always been interested in the art of winemaking and how a bottle of wine can bring family and friends together for a memorable evening or a casual conversation. To have the opportunity to create my own collection and be part of the process was what led me to launching Barrymore

What was the testing and tasting process like?

I travelled to Italy and spent time in the Triveneto area where the grapes are grown. I knew I wanted my first offering to be a pinot grigio, so my goal

was to create a wine that was refreshing and subtle yet complex. We had a lot of tasting until we found the one that had all of these qualities in a glass.

What should we pair your pinot grigio with?

It can really be enjoyed and paired with a variety of foods. I love having a glass with a light pasta or seafood dish.

Tom Cruise admits to being caught off guard by divorce

Tom Cruise is finally opening up about his divorce from Katie Holmes, which caught most of Hollywood off guard. And it turns out it caught Cruise off guard as well.

"I didn't expect it," he says in an interview with German TV station ProSieben.

"To be 50 and to have experiences and to think you have a grip on everything, and then it hits you — this is it, what life can do to you. Life is a tragicomedy. You need to have a sense of humour."





Perry ridding herself of Brand

Katy Perry is quickly unloading any remnants from her marriage to Russell Brand, including the Hollywood Hills home he bought in 2011 and then relinquished to her following their divorce, according to Us Weekly.

Perry is listing the sevenbedroom, 11-bath home for \$6.925 million. It sits on a three-acre compound near the Chateau Marmont.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Gosling has kind words to say about Britney Spears

Growing up as co-stars on the Mickey Mouse Club made for some interesting run-ins between Ryan Gosling and Britney Spears — at least to hear Gosling tell it.

"Britney was a sweetheart," Gosling tells the U.K.'s Sunday Times magazine.

"She lived right above me, the girl next door. The little girl I used to play basketball and spin the bottle with."

Old pals

"She lived right above me, the girl next door. The little girl I used to play basketball and spin the bottle with."

Ryan GoslingTalking about Britney Spears.

Their other Clubmembers included Justin Timberlake, Christina Aguilera and Keri Russell.

"I mean, sometimes you are at the same event, but it's a lot like I imagine what it's like to run into someone from elementary school," he says of how the old gang relates to each other now.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

TO TUESDAY, APRIL 16

@joelmchale

Last week my 5yr old walked out on our hotel balcony & repeatedly screamed GIVE ME MONEY. I thought "Wow, someday he will be a great leader"



@pattonoswalt

Sure, Diddy is dating @KateUpton. But did he win @ esquiremag's Twitter War? Did he? DID HE?!? (Hugs crown, bursts into tears)



@SteveMartinToGo

When I was twelve, I wanted to launch a missile,



Lohan pal looked to Liza to get the troubled star back on track

Lindsay Lohan was nearly given quite the talking to by Liza Minnelli late last year when the legendary singer was reportedly approached by a Lohan pal to stage an

intervention, according to Radar Online.

Lohan's friend, Claus Hjelmwas the one who is said to have reached out to Minnelli.

"He was so concerned for her well-being because of her continued use of prescription pills and booze," a source says. "He reached out to Liza Minnelli's camp, in the hope that she could help. Liza has battled her own demons with alcohol and has been very supportive publicly of Lindsay. Claus thought that if anyone could get through to Lindsay, Liza could be that person."



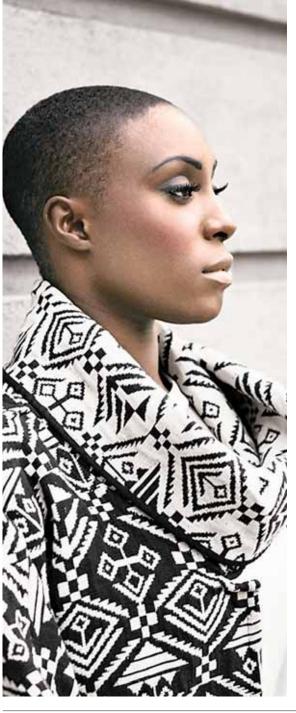
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LAURA MVULA

British singer Laura Mvula sounds like Nina Simone and is being called the next Adele.

She talks to us about her personal style.

'I'M AN EXPLORER'

KENYA HUNT

Metro World News in London

Laura Mvula's anthemic single, That's Alright, is a declaration against all of the unrealistic beauty standards promoted in magazines that make women second-guess themselves: "I will never be what you want and that's alright.

Cause my skin ain't light and my body ain't tight. And that's alright."

So it's not surprising that the Brit who is often described as this generation's answer to Nina Simone would be equally secure in her sense of personal style.

As she prepares to go on tour in support of her new album, Sing to the Moon, she opens up about her natural hair,

crush on Vivienne Westwood and weakness for big heels.

Styling around her natural hair

"My hair is very short, so it's important for me to feel soft and feminine. I like to think I'm a warm person. I like to soften my image as much as possible so that my short hair isn't overly strong or intimidating."

Her stage persona versus her off-duty one

"I think the two go alongside each other. Even things like being practical, which isn't my strongest point as a person. Sometimes I'm standing at a keyboard, and I want to wear my big heels. I love my big heels. But even though I might have a specific image and vision in my head, it also has to be comfortable for me to wear. I think what I wear will change as I work with bigger ensembles.

At the moment simplicity is really important to me. I want to come off the stage feeling comfortable, like I've been able to move and not think about this wrap falling off my head or the length of my skirt."

metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013

On figuring out her look

"I'm an explorer. My dad used to say that I was always the kid in the wardrobe trying on ridiculous pieces together and thinking somehow that they would work. I think a lot about my style and my image, which is really important to me. Even though I do feel like a baby when it comes to fashion. I still feel very much at the beginning of it all."

Her ultimate fashion fantasy

"I dream about Vivienne Westwood. When I was getting married, I spent a lot of time dreaming about her dresses. But to have this kind of (professional) opportunity makes (her clothes) more attainable. I've worn some of her pieces before. They're so elegant, pretty and feminine."



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This designer eye stays Canadian

Shop the tried-and-true retailers that were born here



DESIGN CENTRE Karl Lohnes home@metronews.ca

With the recent hoopla about new fashion and decor retailers invading Canada, I thought I'd pay homage to the home decor retailers who have been born and bred in this country.

I've always believed we have consistently been home to the best, and with a good style-eye, anyone can find attractive, on-trend home decor items for less than what others might expect.

The trick to an interesting decor is to mix various price points and styles that compliment each other. If you are looking for some well-priced accessories, here's a list of my favourite items from nationally available — and Canadian-born — retail and online stores.

EQ3

Born 12 years ago, the Winnipeg-based furniture manufacturer now has 11 stores in Canada and a comprehensive website that allows online shoppers to purchase affordable modern furnishings from coast to coast. Made in Canada upholstered furnishings are great quality and excellent value.



Urban Barn

Founded by two high school friends 23 years ago, BC's born-and-bred home furnishings retailer boasts 41 locations and a comprehensive website. Trendconscious shoppers can find amazingly priced furnishings and home accessories that change seasonally. Look for semi-custom furniture and carpets, trendsetting decorative objects and art. My favourite piece at the moment is a modern deco inspired bookcase that would act perfectly as a room divider as well.



Biblioteca Bookcase, \$699, urbanbarn.com



New York Duvet Cover Set, from \$130, simons.ca

Simons

The esteemed family-owned retailer from Quebec has been in the fashion and housewares business for more than 170 years — it recently opened a new store in Edmonton. Canadians can even shop for their home decor online. Its bedding and tabletop linens always please me and Simons' imported lines are hard to find elsewhere. I am always impressed with the bedding: great quality, well priced and some very interesting designs.

Homesense

The domestic spin-off of discount fashion retailer Winners, Homesense boasts prices 20 to 60 per cent less than other retailers. With around 90 stores coast-to-coast, savvy home decor shoppers are sure to enjoy quality brands at discount prices. Homesense is my goto for decorative pillows in designer styles, fabrics and fills (many have posh down/feather fills) that would cost five times the price elsewhere.



Designer-style pillows, from \$14, homesense.ca



Over-dyed semi-antique patchwork rugs, from \$200, ecarpetgallery.com

eCarpetGallery

Based in Montreal, this importer of new, vintage and antique rugs is known for its free shipping, fast delivery and exceptional pricing. Without a showroom and commissioned sales staff, this online business can offer the best prices in Canada. The rugs are imported, handmade and, in many cases, vintage, which makes them classics to collect and keep forever. Right now I am crazy for the over-dyed Persians and patchwork rugs that are a fraction of the cost of the high-end rug retailers.

metronews.ca
Thursday, April 11, 2013

Curb appeal puts your home in big demand

Home. First impression is critical when setting the mood for prospective buyers

In a market where sellers are in competition to make the most out of their largest investment, improving your home's first impression is one of the best ways to set it apart from the rest of the pack.

When prospective buyers or renters drive through your neighbourhood, what do they see? This is a really important question that you need to answer because it will help understand what your buyer is going to be looking for in a new home.

Once you've answered this, ask yourself objectively if the front of your home is in keeping with the rest of the houses on your block. The first impression is critical in setting the mood for prospective agents and buyers.

If your home's exterior looks like it needs work, then people immediately assume that it's a

fixer-upper. The opposite is true if your front yard is manicured, the roof is in good shape and the driveway is in good condition. Having a potential buyer walk into your front door in a positive mood can translate into big dollars for you.

Both Virginia Tech and the University of Guelph did studies in 2011 that measured the effect of landscaping on property values, and they both came to the same conclusion. To improve curb appeal, basic landscaping increased the home's value by five per cent, but more extensive landscaping, including decks and patios, increased the homes value up to 15 per cent.

So where do you spend the money?

Set your budget and be realistic about what you're trying to accomplish with it. Keep in mind that you are trying to create an excellent first impression to attract potential buyers. This isn't the opportunity for you to realize your landscaping dreams. Consider a new paint job using a colour scheme that highlights the character of your home. Install a new front door

or at least update your door's hardware. Even something as simple as full and healthy planters can make a favourable impact.

One of the easiest ways to improve curb appeal is to have a clean and tidy front yard with a manicured lawn. Maybe this is the opportunity to invest in some new tools to help do the job properly. The best part about this type of investment is that not only will your plants and lawn look better with edging, pruning and cutting, you also get to take your new tools with you once you've sold your home.

The technology for landscaping tools has made the purchasing task much easier as well. Now you can get a hedge trimmer, string trimmer or sweeper & vac all in one system. With the Black & Decker 36V Lithium system, for example, you can use the same battery and charger for all three of those tools. A quick prune of the shrubs with the hedge trimmer, followed by "one-around" with the string trimmer and then tidying up with the sweeper will help you



to maintain the front yard in as little as 10 minutes per day.

The goal is to create an emotional connection at the first glance of any prospective buyer, so before you put that sign on the lawn, be sure to spend enough time at the curb.

NEWSCANADA







APARTMENT LIFE METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING



PEST PROOFING YOUR APARTMENT

Pests seek out homes for food and shelter. By understanding the conditions that give pests an opportunity to survive and thrive, you will be better prepared to develop an action plan to remove or limit these conditions, making your apartment a less welcoming place for pests.

Look for those roadways in areas such as under the kitchen sink. You may see a gap between the sink drain pipe and the wall or floor. Holes in window screens, gaps around window trim and cracks between the floors and the walls may all offer travel routes for pests. Try to seal off these roadways by:

- · Sealing holes in walls around plumbing and electrical lines between apartment units. Look for penetrations in utility closets, under kitchen sinks, behind toilets and sinks in bathrooms. Usually these holes can be sealed with caulking or spray foam.
- Caulking cracks and crevices in cupboards and walls.
- Ensuring window screens are properly fitted and are in good repair to keep flying and crawling insects out.
- Sealing the gap under the corridor to suite door with weatherstripping (Note: this may adversely affect the air quality in your apartment. If you note lingering odours, stale air and high humidity, you may have to remove the weatherstripping.)

CLIMATE: The optimum temperature for many insects is between 20 and 30°C (68-86° F). Most insects will die if exposed to

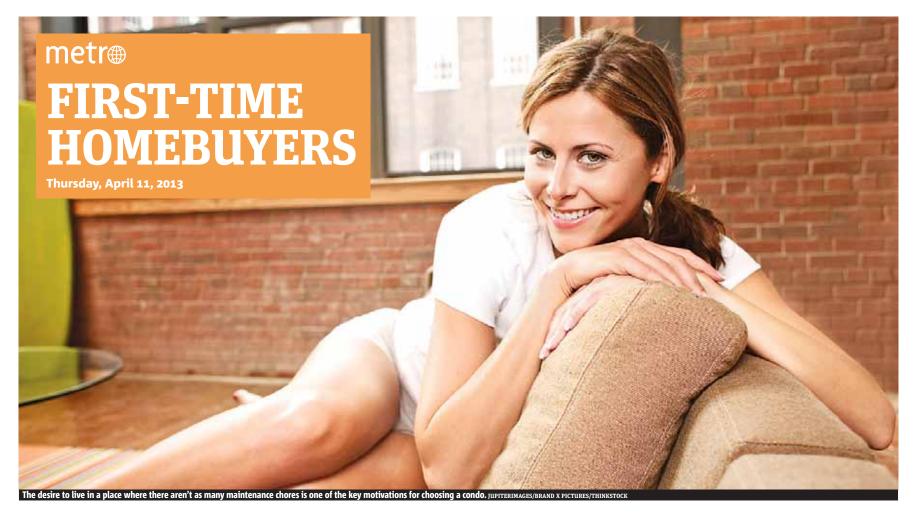
temperatures below -2°C (28°F) or above 45°C (113°F) for a period of time. Insects need moisture to survive, and some (such as silverfish) thrive on high humidity and stand-

WATER SOURCES: Many pests are attracted to damp areas. Sources of water and potential insect habitats include kitchens, bathrooms, water pipes in concealed spaces, water in the building envelope, custodial closets, water fountains and climate-control equipment. Standing water in refrigerator condensation pans and air conditioner drain pans can provide water for pests to live on.

FOOD SOURCES: Open foods and food waste, dander and dead skin represent food for all types of pests. Potted plants and cut flowers, water in vases and over-watered plants, dead and dying plants, and the nectar and pollen of flowering plants all encourage the presence of pests.

HABITATS: Several common pests thrive in small, dark, undisturbed spaces. Insects like to live in dark, tight spaces (such as corrugated boxes and cracks in walls), and are attracted to piles of boxes or other materials left undisturbed for long periods. Insects also live in quiet spaces like concealed corners in cupboards, the undersides of bookcases and behind furniture. Dust and dirt are hospitable environments for many pests. Dirt and clutter make it difficult to see pests. so a problem may go unnoticed for some





Low-maintenance living

Condominiums. Having fewer responsibilities makes housing arrangements easier for people

RICHARD WOODBURY

Working as a real estate agent for the last 15 years, Joyce Richards has noticed that while there are different groups of people buying condos, there is a common thread between them. Whether it's the retiree looking to downsize or the young person who travels a lot, the desire to live in a place where there aren't as many maintenance chores is one of the key motivations for choosing a condo.

Having fewer responsibilities makes housing arrange-

ments easier for people who travel or work out of town frequently

"You just lock the door and go," says the Halifax-based real estate agent with Coldwell Banker Supercity Realty.

Another advantage of living in a condo is it allows people to live more centrally, thus allowing them to walk to work, be close to public transportation and the amenities of a downtown.

"People like to buy condos

for the location," says Nic Blachette, a real estate agent with Sutton West Coast Realty in Vancouver.

There are, of course, downsides to condo living.

"I think some of the cons are people don't understand they are moving into a community," Richards says.

She says issues can pop up where people aren't respectful of their neighbours. Unlike living in one's own house, they have to be especially careful

about the noise they create since condos will have different types of noise restrictions.

"You do have neighbours and they're a lot closer than when you had a house," Richards says.

Conflict between the owners at a condo building can also come about because of things like repairs to the units. While something like window replacements may not seem like a conflict generator on the surface, the fact owners may

disagree on how much to spend on the replacements can create conflict, Blachette cautions.

Also, condos may not be an ideal fit for families as the amenities of a condo tend to be more geared towards adults, Richards says.

Before purchasing a condo, people need to make sure the building meshes well with their lifestyle.

"It's a good concept," Richards says. "It just has to meet your lifestyle."



Make a list of your basic needs to see if you can afford buying a home.

Tips. Know what you can afford

More than ever before, firsttime homebuyers are considering housing affordability.

"We want consumers to be comfortable with the financial responsibilities of owning a home, so it's important to determine what you can afford in order to maintain a reasonable lifestyle once you've made the leap," says Phil Soper, president of Royal LePage Canada

To assess if you are ready

for home ownership, Soper offers this guideline:

Determine your net worth. Take your assets (earnings, investments, savings, vehicles and other items you own) and subtract your liabilities (car loans, lines of credit, overdrafts and credit cards). A positive number is a good sign that you may be ready to purchase your first home.

Hire a real estate agent. Top agents have extensive

experience and demonstrate dedication and commitment to helping their clients. Ask your family and friends for a referral, or explore real estate websites to read profiles on agents, including their areas of expertise and languages spoken. A real estate agent will have knowledge of accurate, real-time market data to leverage your negotiating position, as well as access to properties often even before they are listed.

Make a list of your basic needs. Is it important to you to be close to transit and amenities? Do you intend to grow your family or do you have a need for extra space? Determine the factors essential to you in a home and which ones you may be able to live without. This will help you narrow your search and choose a home that is within your financial means.

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Decorating for smaller spaces

HANES

One of the challenges of moving to a condo is adapting to living in a relatively small space. But even compact condos can appear roomy with space-saving furniture, clever storage solutions and decorating tricks.

Interior decorator Mary Bannet of Just the Thing Interiors (justthethinginteriors. com) says the first order of business is to edit belongings. Some clients may want to wait until they move to see what possessions work in the new space and which ones have to go, she says.

She says buyers shouldn't feel compelled to follow a condo floor plan.

"Just because the plan says a space is a dining room doesn't mean you have to use it as a dining room."

Multi-functional furniture is ideal for condos, she says.

"Multi-functional pieces make good use of space and you might want to look a console table that may also

be used as a desk, laptop trays that fit over a sofa arm or coffee tables that can be converted into dining tables,' she suggests.

A bed that folds into a wall is an excellent way to accommodate overnight guests without taking up valuable space on a daily basis, Bannet

Built-ins that provide storage are must-haves. "You need to think about making use of vertical space and use of the height of the walls rather than floor space. You could put built-in storage around a wall-mounted TV and store bedding above it and board games below it."

In kitchens, bulkheads may have nothing but empty space behind them and may be converted to storage. Or a kitchen wall may be turned into an island or peninsula with a breakfast bar.

Bannet says mirrors are great space enhancers as accent pieces or mounted on entire walls.

Glass, mirrored and lacquered furniture pieces also boost the feeling of space.



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A small bistro table and two chairs tucked into corner create a relaxing

Create a cosy outdoor haven

Most condo and apartment balconies are barren spaces surrounded by dull, grey concrete, steel and glass. They aren't very inviting. And that's probably why most of us don't use them very often.

But why not use every inch of your little piece of urban real estate to its fullest? If your building's rules allow you to, the experts at Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse offer a range of suggestions to maximize your living space by creating a cosy outdoor haven.

A concrete floor isn't very welcoming. Adding a small outdoor area rug will make it comfortable for your bare

Look for small-scale furniture that is both comfortable and functional. A cushioned corner chair or lounge at one end of a balcony gives you a place to read a book or take a breezy nap.

A small bistro table and two chairs tucked into another corner create a relaxing nook for your morning tea or evening glass of wine.

If you have the space and a suitable corner, two short storage benches or deck boxes and a square table form a dining booth for entertain-

Whatever furnishings you choose, make sure your seating is comfortable. If your current chairs don't have padding, invest in a few washable outdoor cushions. Then add some outdoor pillows and throw blankets.

Don't be afraid to choose

Balcony gardens

"For a little variety. combo planters are areat for creating balcony gardens, and they come in a range of colours and styles. If you don't have space for a garden, a hanging wall bag adds a splash of colour to any outside wall space."

Sarah Skeates, merchandising specialist with Lowe's

bright colours and fun designs. A balcony is for relaxing and entertaining, so it should be friendly and invit-

If you will be using your patio at night, the right lantern or outdoor candle can create a warm, relaxing ambi-

A tiny garden can also add some life to your balcony. Many potted flowers and including tomatoes, peppers and herbs — thrive in small spaces.

"For a little variety, combo planters are great for creating balcony gardens, and they come in a range of colours and styles," says Sarah Skeates, a merchandising specialist with Lowe's. "If you don't have space for a garden, a hanging wall bag adds a splash of colour to any outside wall space.'

NEWS CANADA

pp. Calculate financial situations

CMHC is pleased to introduce two new tools to help Canadian homebuyers make informed and responsible homebuying decisions.

CMHC's new debt service calculator allows homebuyers to evaluate their financial situation and understand how much they can comfortably afford to spend on a mortgage. The easy-to-use calculator allows users to quickly estimate their gross debt-service ratio

(GDS) and total debt-service ratio (TDS), both important measures in assessing their financially readiness for home ownership. The debt service calculator

can be accessed on cmhc.ca (search calculator). CMHC's

new "Ready, Set, Home" mobile app provides consumers, especially first-time homebuyers, with comprehensive CMHC information and tools at their fingertips. The app helps homebuyers keep track of the details throughout the homebuying process and provides ac-

cess to a variety of helpful calculators, articles and other resources. Recognizing the increasingly paced, electronic and

mobile environment,

housing information. The app can be downloaded to your Blackberry, Android or iPhone device at cmhc.ca/mobile. These new tools are the latest additions to CMHC's comprehensive suite of resources that are available to

support Canadian homebuy-

the Ready, Set, Home mobile

app is a free application that

offers quick and convenient

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Tenant insurance. Give yourself peace of mind

So, you have found your ideal apartment — a two-bedroom basement paradise or a midtown penthouse or a fantastic south-facing one-bedroom condo. Now it's time to move in right away, right? Sure, start packing, but make sure you also budget for tenant insurance

Perhaps you think you don't need it because you are only renting and you don't own any fancy stuff. But what if something happened — would you have enough set aside to replace all your belongings and to find temporary housing? If you said no, Pina Ferraro-Novello, a corporate underwriter with Desjardins General Insurance Group, would like you to reconsider.

"Tenant insurance is necessary because it protects

your property and also covers you in the event that you accidentally cause damage to the property of others," Ferraro-Novello says. "For example, if your bathtub overflowed and flooded the apartment below, destroying your neighbour's property, tenant insurance would protect you. Luckily, it's a simple and affordable coverage. Also, if you're a student, your parents' policy

might automatically extend coverage to you at school."

What's typically covered by tenant insurance?

This type of insurance protects you from damage, like fire, theft, certain water damage and vandalism. If your apartment is seriously damaged as a result of an insured loss, tenant insurance would also typically cover your addi-

tional living expenses while it's being repaired. Tenant insurance also provides liability coverage if someone gets hurt because of your negligence, like slipping and falling on a wet floor in your apartment, for example.

How much coverage do you need?

The total cost of tenant's insurance will depend largely on the value of your contents. Most renters tend to underestimate what it would cost to replace their belongings. It's smart to take an inventory, including photos, which only takes a few minutes and will make things a lot easier if you experience a loss.

Start by walking from room to room and itemize all the contents.

EWS CANADA



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New or used: Which is best suited for you?

RICHARD WOODBURY

Newer isn't always better. That's the bottom line when it comes to purchasing a condo since there are many pros and cons to buying a new condo versus a resale one.

Perhaps the biggest advantage to buying a new condo is it will likely be more modern in style.

"You're getting a new product with today's features and finishes," says Josh Nelson, a real estate agent with Royal LePage Foothills in Cal-

This will also likely include a warranty.

As well, buyers will be able to make the unit more their own by selecting finishes and upgrades.

The condo fees may be lower in a new building, but that isn't necessarily a good thing

"That's also a big negative in my opinion, in that most of the developers ... set these condo fees too low," Nelson says.

Nelson says it takes some-

where between three and five years for a new condo to get a good idea of how it should be spending its money. He says if the condo fees haven't gone up after five years, they will likely go up substantially very soon.

Another downside to a new condo can be that people are often purchasing it when it is nothing more than plans on a piece of paper.

"A plan is a plan and a finished product could be completely different," says Clair Whittington, a broker with MaxWell Altima Realty in Regina.

This is in contrast to a resale condo.

"You know what the finished product is," Whittington says.

Having a finished product with a track record can also provide people with some reassurance.

"You may find a little bit more security in a resale building in that you have been seeing what it has been doing in its past and you can get an idea of where it will be in the future," Nelson says.

RICHARD WOODBURY

Know rules before you move in

Bylaws. Condos have a structure in place so that living conditions appeal to everyone

RICHARD WOODBURY

For Metro

Every condo building has its own set of rules, regulations and bylaws.

"The restrictions are essentially a fourth level of government, a way of creating sanity within an environment," says Bill Thompson, the vice-president of the Canadian Condominium Institute's national executive board.

He says because condos are "a lifestyle-driven environment," the rules, regulations and bylaws in place are meant to reflect that.

For example, a condo for seniors will probably have a lot of noise restrictions, while a condo with a rooftop "party bar" probably won't have many, Thompson says.

Besides noise, things like whether pets are permitted are spelled out. If they are, the kinds and numbers allowed will be specified.

While a person may own their unit, it doesn't necessarily mean they can do whatever they want to it. For example, if they want to renovate the kitchen, there is likely a process by which a person will need to get approval before the work begins.



"The condo owners, they have to appreciate that there's a structure in place and that structure is supposed to be for the betterment of the condominium corporation," says Linda Pinizzotto, the founder and president CEO of Condo Owners Association, a non-profit organization representing condo owners in Ontario.

She says it's important that if people disagree with the rules, regulations and bylaws in place, they have a means of questioning them fairly and respectfully. Enforcement of the rules, bylaws and regulations is handled by a building's condo corporation.

Using Ontario as an example, if the condo corporation is unable to enforce the rules, the matter would be handled by mediation (and then binding arbitration if mediation didn't work). If both of those things fail, the

condo corporation could end up getting a court-enforced order.

However, Thompson says there are instances where mediation and arbitration will be bypassed directly for a court-enforced order. One example is if a building has a weight limit for dogs and the dog exceeds that limit.

"There is no dispute over the rule," Thompson says. "The owner is just simply breaching the rule."

Bottom line. Do your due diligence

When people start looking to purchase real estate, they often get pre-approved mortgages to know how much money they can borrow.

Shawna Snair, a mortgage specialist with The Mortgage Centre in Halifax, has some advice for people looking to get a mortgage for a condo.

"You have to be really careful that you specify it is a condo you are looking at," she says

The reason is that while condo ownership and home ownership share many of the same ongoing costs, there is one key difference — condo fees.

Because of this additional monthly expense, it changes a person's financial position and can impact whether they qualify for the amount of financing for which they were originally pre-approved.

As part of the pre-approval process, Snair also insists people ask whether it includes a credit check since not all lenders perform a credit check on a pre-approval.

Otherwise, if something negative comes up during the credit check, the application could end up being denied.

It is also important that when people determine what their budget is, they should leave some wiggle room in case the condo fees increase. Generally, condo fees increase (and rarely do they get decreased).

The condo fees an owner pays go towards covering their share of common property elements, as well as a building's reserve fund. The reserve



fund covers the major repairs and replacements that will be needed over a building's life.

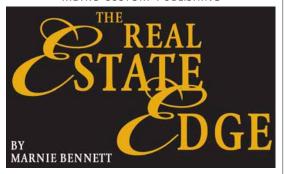
Assessing the health of the reserve fund is especially important since it will offer an indication whether significant increases in condo fees lie ahead.

Lawyer Rick Carlson practises real estate law in Saskatoon and a client recently had him look into the health of a building's reserve fund prior to making a purchase.

"You could see ... they were underfunded quite a bit so they were going to have to be making significant catch-up payments over the next several years to reach their goals," says the partner with Cuelenaere Kendall Katzman & Watson.

RICHARD WOODBURY

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING



YOU'RE AWESOME – NOW DON'T SCREW UP!

4 Ways to Avoid Rookie Home Buying Mistakes

Helping enthusiastic first-timers find a home is one of my favourite parts of the job. Interestingly, in spite of being generally well-informed, many of these clients slip into certain rookie patterns. Here are four common mistakes to avoid.

- 1. Looking skin-deep. When touring resale homes, buyers are often turned off by clutter, garish paint colours and dated fixtures. These are easy fixes! Focus on location, structural soundness, ceiling height, natural light things that can't be changed. Un-staged homes often provide terrific buying opportunities.
- 2. Impulse buying. While I respect gut instinct, comparison shopping is a must. Procuring a real estate team even if you're looking at brand new houses or condos is a great way to eliminate legwork for yourself. At no cost to you, great teams can brief you on what's available, what's worth looking at, and what's fair market value.
- 3. Indecisiveness. The right real estate team will supply a healthy dose of realism, helping you identify pros, cons, and solid opportunities. Other things being equal, the sooner you enter the market, the better the long-term return on your investment.
- 4. Fear of negotiation. It's hard to haggle confidently without a firm footing in the market. Use your real estate team as your advocate. The best agents know how hard to push, and understand that dollars aren't the only bargaining chip around.

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Thursday, April 11, 2013

Colourful salad makes great sidekick for grilled meats

Eric Akis's goal when he wrote his book Everyone Can Cook Everything was to create a kitchen bible that people with any level of culinary expertise can use on a daily basis.

He has peppered his seventh book with plenty of tips, such as how to hard-boil eggs, use a piping bag and make a stir-fry. He also provides advice with ways to tweak recipes to one's own taste.

"I was trying to encourage people to cook. Once you've done this, then you should try to learn some more culinary skills, maybe try to learn one or two things a month such as how to steam rice, how to tell when fish is cooked, so just keep building your confidence," he said.

"And then in the book

you'll find recipes that once you're up there and feeling really confident, then you'll find something a little more challenging you could take on."

Akis said the style of cooking he likes "is based on the Italian model with really fresh vegetables, good simple ingredients, good olive oil, fresh garlic. It could be that beautiful piece of fish, chicken that I've bought from the corner butcher shop and just keep it simple. Let the ingredients sing.

"It doesn't have to have 49 ingredients to be extra special. If the ingredients are something that's special, that will make things shine."

That's exactly the case

Ingredients

- 45 ml (3 tbsp) orange juice
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) red wine vinegar
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil • 2 ml (1/2 tsp) sugar
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 3 medium oranges, peeled, halved and sliced
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) crumbled feta

cheese

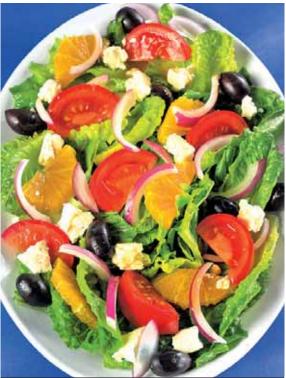
- 20 to 24 whole black or green olives
- 2 ripe medium tomatoes, cut into small wedges
- 1.5 l (6 cups) chopped romaine lettuce
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced

with this Romaine With Oranges, Feta and Olives salad. Akis says if you prefer, you can swap out romaine with an equal amount of spinach leaves or baby salad greens.

1. In a salad bowl, whisk together orange juice, vinegar, oil, sugar, salt and pepper.

2. Add remaining salad ingredients and gently toss.

3. Divide among plates or serve on a large platter, ensuring some of the oranges, cheese, olives, onions and tomatoes decorate the top. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ EVERYONE CAN COOK EVERYTHING BY ERIC AKIS (WHITEGAP. 2012)



This recipe serves four, the canadian press H/O



Lunch. Asian Barley and Rice Salad

1. In a large saucepan, bring the wild rice and chicken broth to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for about 15 to 20 minutes. Add the barley and continue simmering an additional 40 minutes. Cover and let it stand until all moisture is absorbed. Cool.

2. Put the barley mixture in a large serving bowl. Add all of the remaining ingredients except for the

pecans, and mix well. Place in fridge two hours or overnight. Add pecans just before serving.
RECIPE AND PHOTO COURTESY OF
GOBARLEY.COM

Ingredients

- 1 cup (250 ml) wild rice
- 4 cups (1 l) chicken broth1 cup (250 ml) pearl barley
- 2 medium red peppers,
- 2 medium red peppers chopped
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) chopped green onions
- 2 cups (500 ml) frozen corn, thawed
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) soy sauce
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) rice vinegar
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) sesame oil • 2 cups (500 ml) chopped



Canadian maple syrup makes a wok winner

MARTELL

Rather than using sugar, this dish calls for some Canadian maple syrup for sweetness. The sweetness contrasted with the zip of the red wine vinegar makes this Crispy Maple Beef a morsel by morsel mouth-pleasing wok win-

- 1. Mix the beef, baking soda, and 3 tablespoons of water in a medium bowl. Cover, and refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight (the baking soda will tenderize the steak).
- 2. To make the sauce, mix the syrup, vinegar, soy sauce and cornstarch in a small

Ingredients

- 1 lb stir-fry beef
- 1 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 3 tbsp water
- Vegetable oil
- 1 cup cornstarch
- 1 large egg white, lightly
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 3 cups prepared white rice Sauce
- 4 tbsp maple syrup • 4 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 2 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp cornstarch
- For your phone

Swirl It! (iPhone; free)



MIND THE Kris Ahel

A wine diary to remember the wines you've had at the restaurants you visit. "Swirl" the good ones and "Spit" the bad, then watch the app figure out your palette.



bowl. Set aside.

3. Heat a large wok over high heat. Add enough vegetable oil to come about 1 1/2 inches up the sides of the wok, and heat to 375 degrees F. Meanwhile, add the cornstarch and egg white to the beef, and mix well to coat.

4. Cook the beef one small batch at a time (about 1/2

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cup) so that it does not bring the temperature of the oil too low. Stir gently until it begins to look crispy, about 1 minute. Using a wire mesh strainer, transfer the beef to a colander to drain. Remove any fried bits from the wok.

5. Return the beef to the wok, and fry again until crispy all over, about 2 minutes. Transfer to a strainer to

drain. Discard all but 1 tablespoon of oil from the wok.

6. Return the wok to high heat. Add the beef, sauce mixture and sesame oil. Stir-fry until all of the ingredients are well blended, about 30 seconds. Serve immediately over steamed rice. YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA IS AN ONLINE RESOURCE TO HELP WOMEN SURVIVE



Dinner. Steaks with Seared Mushrooms and Red Wine Vinaigrette



1. Brush steaks on both sides with oil and season with salt and pepper. Allow to stand at room temperature for 15 to 30 mins. before grilling.

2. Prepare grill for direct cooking over high heat (450 to 550 F) and medium heat (350 to 450 F) and preheat a perforated grill pan over medium heat.

3. In skillet over medium-low heat, cook bacon and onion, 8 mins., stirring occasionally. Remove from the heat.

4. Combine vinaigrette ingredients, including 1/4 cup oil, 1/2 tsp salt and 1/4 tsp pepper; whisk until smooth. Put mushrooms in bowl and add 1/4 cup vinaigrette. Mix well. Reserve remaining vinaigrette.

5. Grill steaks over direct high heat, with lid closed, until cooked to your desired doneness, 10 mins. for medium rare, turning once or twice. Remove from grill and let rest 5 mins.

Spread mushrooms in single layer on grill pan and grill over direct medium heat, with lid closed, 8 min., turning once. Don't move mushrooms until bottom sides are nicely browned. Transfer to skillet with the bacon and onions and warm over medium heat for about 1 min., stirring often. Add chives and mix well. Serve steaks warm with mushroom mixture spooned on top. If desired, whisk the reserved vinaigrette and drizzle some over each steak. NEWS CANADA

- 4 beef tenderloin steaks, each about 6 oz and 1 1/4 inches thick
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 3 thick slices bacon, cut into 1/2-inch dice (2 oz)
- 1/3 cup finely diced red
- onion • 8 oz cremini mushrooms, stems removed, each cut into
- 2 tbsp finely chopped fresh chives

Vinaigrette

- 3 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 2 garlic cloves, minced

Dinner. Kind of Carpaccio

Carpaccio is an Italian dish of to the exterior. thinly sliced and lightly seasoned raw steak. This recipe preserves the essence of carpaccio, but adds both the texture and taste of a light sear

- 1/4 cup mirin
- Kosher salt and coarsely ground black pepper
- Two 6-oz bison steaks • 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 lemon, cut into wedges

- 1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the mirin, 1 teaspoon salt and 1 teaspoon pepper. Add the steaks, turning to coat evenly, then refrigerate for at least 20 minutes and up to an hour.
- 2. When ready to cook, in a large skillet over mediumhigh, heat the oil until very hot but not smoking. Add the steaks and sear on each side for 1 1/2 minutes. Transfer the steaks to a platter and let

3. Once the steaks have rested, thinly slice them across the grain. Fan the slices onto 2 serving plates, then season with salt and pepper. Squeeze 1 or 2 lemon wedges over each. Serve immediately.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

rest for 5 minutes.

Sens get top marks for boarding Little Train



The Ottawa Senators did a fine job in acquiring Cory Conacher, pictured, from the Tampa Bay Lighting for goaltende n Bishop, says columnist Murray Pam. JEN FULLER/GETTY IMAGES



THE HOCKEY **NEWS**

When news broke of the Senators trading goalie Ben Bishop to the Lightning for buzzsaw Cory Conacher, Sens fans immediately took to airwaves, Internet forums and social media to discuss merits of the move. While fanatics displayed their feelings pro and con, the transaction reinforced one basic truth: Sports is a business.

Bishop was acquired from the Blues for a 2013 secondround draft pick, one day prior to last season's trade deadline as a stop-gap measure while injured starter Craig Anderson's knife-sliced finger healed. The Senators lacked confidence in backup Alex Auld and the club wanted Robin Lehner to continue his tutelage in the AHL. The 26 year-old capably filled the void, compiling a 3-2-2 record with two no-decisions in nine consecutive games.

From the outset, it didn't matter how well Bishop performed in Ottawa — he was always the third wheel. Anderson has two years remaining on his deal and the organization made it abundantly clear Lehner is the netminder of the future. To his credit, the Denver native may have inadvertently punched his ticket out of town by his stellar performances of late, winning seven of 10 games during Anderson's most recent absence.

With this in mind, GM Bryan Murray sold high, in essence turning a 2013 second-round selection into Conacher and a fourthrounder. It's a terrific haul for a goaltender who did not fit in the long-range plan.

Born with his bladder on the outside of his body and diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age eight, Conacher battled long odds to make it to the NHL. Undrafted largely due to his diminutive fivefoot-eight, 179-pound frame, the Canisius College grad took home AHL MVP and rookie-of-the-year honours with Norfolk last season.

The 23-year-old was one of the league's hottest scorers post-lockout, garnering 12 points in his first seven NHL games with Tampa. The Burlington, Ont., native is currently second among freshmen in points with 25.

Along with Mika Zibanejad and Jakob Silfverberg, the Senators now possess three of the NHL's top 10 rookie point-getters. It was a no-brainer for coach Paul MacLean to slot these three together. The trio clicked immediately, combining for six points in three games, with Conacher adding a goal for a plus-3 rating.

The addition of the "Little Train" has Sens fans hoping their club will chug their way to the playoffs.

The odd man out

From the outset, it didn't matter how well Bishop performed in Ottawa — he was always the third wheel.

Women's world championship won't expand: IIHF

There will not be a women's world hockey championship in the same year as a Winter Olympics any time soon.

The International Ice Hockey Federation has never held a women's championship in an Olympic year, and there are no plans to do so in 2014 following the Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

That's just fine with several women at this year's world championship in Ottawa.

IIHF president René Fasel

says it would place too much of a strain on the world's pool of elite female players. Fasel points out many of the European players take time off work or school to represent their countries.

"It's too much if they go to the Olympics and then to have the world championship, it's too much," Fasel "They're students or savs. they have a job. They take their vacation to go to the Olympics.

"I would say right now, my feeling is we'll stay like

Even though the men have the opportunity to win Olympic gold and a world title in the same year, the women aren't pushing for it.

"Personally, I think in an Olympic year, the players are spent after an Olympic year, so I don't think we really want it," Canadian captain Hayley Wickenheiser said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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SPORTS 35

Mickelson feeling unfamiliar butterflies



The Masters. Change in PGA tour schedule breaks former champ's tournament routine

One of the last golfers you'd expect to feel anxious heading into the Masters is three-time champion Phil Mickelson.

Yet, the creature of habit is slightly out of sorts after a

change to his usual routine at the year's first major, and it's left Lefty a bit apprehensive about his first tee shot Thursday when the Masters begins.

"I'm nervous because I haven't been in competition since the Sunday of the Houston Open," Mickelson said Tuesday. "It will be 10, 11 days, I guess, and that's what I'm nervous about."

Mickelson's pre-game prep for the Masters has been rock-

Been there done that

Mickelson won green jackets in 2004, 2006 and 2010 and cherishes the layout like few others on tour.

solid in recent years: Play in Houston and leave in a good, competitive frame of mind coming into Augusta National. In this year's PGA Tour schedule, though, the last Masters tune-up came in San Antonio at the Valero Texas Open on a layout Mickelson said was too narrow and too windy to help him at wide-open Augusta National, so he arrived here this past weekend to finish off his prep work.

Mickelson says by playing the week before, he's generally more ready to attack the early holes at Augusta National. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MMA

Hamilton fighter dies after bout

Felix Pablo Elochukwu, a 35-year-old Nigerian man living in Hamilton on a student visa, died at a Port Huron, Mich., hospital last Saturday night shortly after fighting in a mixed martial arts bout, police said.

Results of an autopsy are expected in a week or two.

Elochukwa's trainer Jeff Joslin and numerous others who were there were cited in various reports saying Elochukwu hadn't taken anything close to a pounding.

Joslin, who was at the fight, says it was a relatively tame contest. Most of the time, the two heavyweights were grappling and wrestling.

In the third round, the two exhausted fighters went to the mat where Elochukwu ended up on the bottom and was hit a number times to the head. Unable to defend himself because of fatigue, the referee stepped in and stopped the bout.

The defeated fighter was not knocked out and was coherent after the fight. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



elix Pablo Elochukwu died aturday night after several plows to the head in what his rainer described as a tame ight. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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THINK FRESH THIS SPRING



Rookie Valanciunas's injury minor: Raptors

A huge sigh of relief had to wash over the Air Canada Centre late Wednesday morning.

Jonas Valanciunas, the Raptors' prized rookie centre, doesn't appear to have suffered significant damage after wrenching his neck in an inadvertent collision with teammate Rudy Gay late in Tuesday's win over the Chicago Bulls.

Team officials said Valanciunas suffered a "flexion extension" injury — something akin to whiplash — and test results were negative after he was treated and released overnight from Bush Presbyterian hospital in Chicago.

Valanciunas will be reevaluated in Toronto on Thursday; the Raptors host the Bulls on Friday night. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

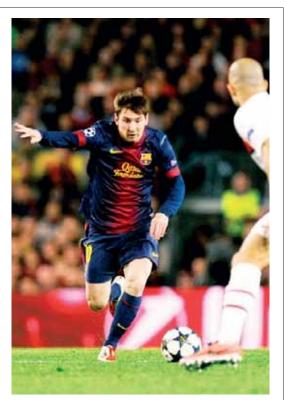


Golf

Woods has kinks to iron out ahead of Masters

Tiger Woods hit three shots off the 13th tee before he could get anywhere near the fairway. It was only a practice round for the Masters on Wednesday morning, but it was a reminder that even when Woods is on top of his game, Augusta National can deliver a few surprises. Woods is the favourite to win this year's tournament. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





Messi boosts Barca to win

Lionel Messi came off the bench to help Barcelona come from a goal down to draw 1-1 with Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday in Barcelona and reach the Champions League semifinals for the sixth year in a TOW. DAVID RAMOS/GETTY IMAGES

metr⊕ **SPORTS** metronews.ca Thursday, April 11, 2013

No longer idle in Motor City

MLB. Blue Jays rally past Tigers in sixth and seventh to improve record to 3-5

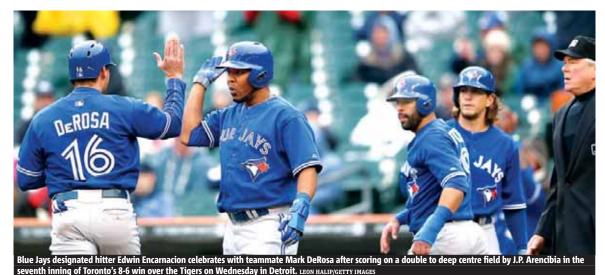
J.P. Arencibia and Mark DeRosa gave the struggling Toronto Blue Jays a chance to feel good.

Arencibia hit a three-run double in the seventh inning and the Blue Jays rallied from a five-run deficit to beat the Detroit Tigers 8-6 on Wednesday.

Toronto had opened a season of high expectations with five losses in seven games.

"No reason to panic, but when you see it slipping away in the fifth or sixth inning, it was nice for the bats to come alive," said DeRosa, whose pinch-hit double in the sixth got the comeback started in earnest. "We obviously didn't get off to the start we wanted to, but we fought.'

Detroit led 6-1 in the sixth, but starter Rick Porcello allowed hits to the first three batters that inning. They all eventually scored, and Toronto



added four more runs the following inning.

Bryan Villarreal (0-1) came on with one on and one out in the seventh and proceeded to walk three straight hitters, forcing in a run. Arencibia followed with a drive to the gap in left-centre off Octavio Dotel

to make it 8-6.

"It was nice to finally get a few hits and walks and guys grinding out at-bats, and string it all in the same inning," Arencibia said. "To score, you need to be able to do that collectively in an inning."

Äaron Loup (1-0) pitched

a scoreless sixth for the Blue Jays. Casey Janssen, the last of five Toronto relievers, pitched a perfect ninth for his second

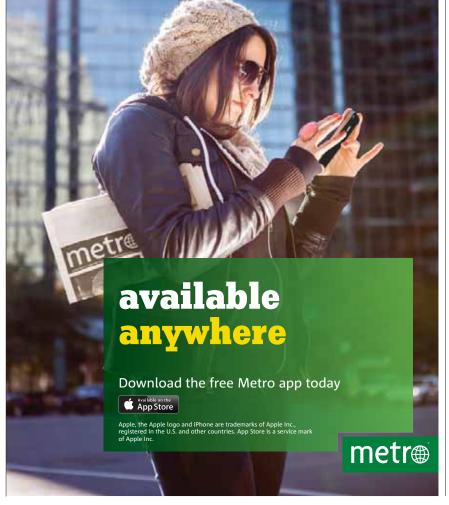
Jays starter Mark Buehrle allowed six runs - five earned in 4 1/3 innings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

Blue Jays designated hitter Edwin Encarnacion snapped an 0-for-19 skid by doubling in the fourth and sixth innings

The Jays' start has been uneven to say the least, but there are plenty of teams that have converted bad starts into post-season finishes.

- 2008 Tampa Bay Rays. Opened April with a 7-10 record but rebounded with a 15-12 month. Went on to win their division and the American League pen-
- 2006 Minnesota Twins. 1-5 to start, 9-15 in April, and 25-33 on June 7 before winning 44 of their next 52 to glide into the post-season.
- 2002 Anaheim Angels. Won the World Series after a 2-5 start in April. They were 9-11 in April before things turned around.
- 2001 Oakland Athletics. Went 8-17 to start. then 96-43 the rest of the way. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



NBA **EASTERN CONFERENCE**

| | W | L | Pct | GE | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Miami | 61 | 16 | .792 | - | | | | | | |
| New York | 51 | 26 | .662 | 10 | | | | | | |
| Indiana | 49 | 29 | .628 | 121 | | | | | | |
| Brooklyn | 45 | 32 | .584 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Chicago | 42 | 35 | .545 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Atlanta | 43 | 36 | .544 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Boston | 40 | 37 | .519 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Milwaukee | 37 | 40 | .481 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Philadelphia | 31 | 47 | .397 | 301 | | | | | | |
| Toronto | 30 | 48 | .385 | 311 | | | | | | |
| Washington | 29 | 49 | .372 | 321 | | | | | | |
| Detroit | 26 | 52 | .333 | 351 | | | | | | |
| Cleveland | 24 | 53 | .312 | 3 | | | | | | |
| Orlando | 19 | 59 | .244 | 421 | | | | | | |
| Charlotte | 18 | 60 | .231 | 431 | | | | | | |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | | |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| TILDI LIVIT COITI | -1/- | | _ | |
|----------------------------|------|-------|----------|--------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| San Antonio | 57 | 20 | .740 | _ |
| Oklahoma City | 57 | 21 | .731 | 1/2 |
| Denver | 53 | 24 | .688 | 4 |
| L.A. Clippers | 51 | 26 | .662 | 6 |
| Memphis | 53 | 25 | .679 | 41/2 |
| Golden State | 45 | 33 | .577 | 121/2 |
| Houston | 44 | 34 | .564 | 131/2 |
| L.A. Lakers | 41 | 37 | .526 | 161/2 |
| Utah | 41 | 38 | .519 | 17 |
| Dallas | 38 | 39 | .494 | 19 |
| Portland | 33 | 44 | .429 | 24 |
| Minnesota | 29 | 48 | .377 | 28 |
| Sacramento | 27 | 50 | .351 | 30 |
| New Orleans | 27 | 51 | .346 | 301/2 |
| Phoenix | 23 | 55 | .295 | 341/2 |
| x — clinched playoff berth | z — | cline | hed conf | erence |

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 124 Philadelphia 101

Milwaukee at Orlando Detroit at Cleveland

Miami at Washington

Brooklyn at Bostor

Phoenix at Dallas

L.A. Lakers at Portland

New Orleans at Sacramento

San Antonio at Denver

Minnesota at L.A. Clippers THURSDAY'S GAMES — All Times Eastern

New York at Chicago, 8 p.m. Oklahoma City at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| -, 10 1 - 111 | | ٠. | ••• | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|
| | GP | W | L | OTL | SL | GF | GA | P |
| y-Pittsburgh | 40 | 30 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 132 | 98 | 60 |
| Montreal | 39 | 25 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 122 | 94 | 55 |
| Washington | 40 | 21 | 17 | 2 | 0 | 120 | 112 | 44 |
| Boston | 38 | 25 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 108 | 81 | 54 |
| Toronto | 39 | 22 | 13 | 0 | 4 | 121 | 109 | 48 |
| Ottawa | 39 | 19 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 96 | 88 | 44 |
| NY Islanders | 40 | 20 | 16 | 3 | 1 | 117 | 120 | 44 |
| NY Rangers | 39 | 19 | 16 | 0 | 4 | 96 | 94 | 42 |
| Winnipeg | 41 | 20 | 19 | 0 | 2 | 102 | 121 | 42 |
| New Jersey | 39 | 15 | 14 | 3 | 7 | 92 | 106 | 40 |
| Buffalo | 40 | 16 | 18 | 2 | 4 | 106 | 122 | 38 |
| Philadelphia | 39 | 17 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 107 | 122 | 37 |
| Tampa Bay | 39 | 17 | 20 | 0 | 2 | 124 | 116 | 36 |
| Carolina | 39 | 16 | 21 | 1 | 1 | 102 | 126 | 34 |
| Florida | 39 | 13 | 20 | 5 | 1 | 96 | 132 | 32 |
| | | | | | | | | |

WESTERN CONFEDENCE

| WESTERIA COMI ENLINCE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|-----|----|------|-----|----|--|--|--|--|
| | GP | W | L | OTL | SL | . GF | GA | Pt | | | | |
| x-Chicago | 39 | 30 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 129 | 83 | 64 | | | | |
| Anaheim | 40 | 27 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 123 | 99 | 59 | | | | |
| Vancouver | 39 | 22 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 105 | 95 | 50 | | | | |
| Los Angeles | 40 | 22 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 115 | 101 | 48 | | | | |
| San Jose | 39 | 20 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 98 | 98 | 47 | | | | |
| St. Louis | 38 | 22 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 107 | 98 | 46 | | | | |
| Minnesota | 39 | 22 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 103 | 98 | 46 | | | | |
| Detroit | 39 | 19 | 15 | 3 | 2 | 99 | 101 | 43 | | | | |
| Dallas | 39 | 19 | 17 | 2 | 1 | 109 | 118 | 41 | | | | |
| Columbus | 40 | 17 | 16 | 3 | 4 | 95 | 104 | 41 | | | | |
| Phoenix | 39 | 17 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 105 | 106 | 40 | | | | |
| Edmonton | 39 | 16 | 16 | 4 | 3 | 101 | 108 | 39 | | | | |
| Nashville | 41 | 15 | 18 | 2 | 6 | 96 | 110 | 38 | | | | |
| Calgary | 38 | 14 | 20 | 1 | 3 | 102 | 134 | 32 | | | | |
| Colorado | 39 | 12 | 22 | 4 | 1 | 90 | 124 | 29 | | | | |

x – clinched playoff berth y – clinched division WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto at NY Rangers Boston at New Jersey Phoenix at Edmonton Vancouver at Calgary Colorado at Anaheim

THURSDAY'S GAMES — All Times Eastern

Ottawa at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. NY Islanders at Boston, 7 p.m. Montreal at Buffalo, 7 p.m. Carolina at Washington, 7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m. San Jose at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. St. Louis at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Florida at Winnipeg, 8 p.m. Colorado at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

MLB

| AMERICAN LEAG | UE | | | |
|-------------------------|----|---|------|-----|
| EAST DIVISION | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Boston | 5 | 2 | .714 | _ |
| New York | 4 | 4 | .500 | 11/ |
| Tampa Bay | 4 | 5 | .444 | 2 |
| Baltimore | 3 | 4 | .429 | 2 |
| Toronto | 3 | 5 | .375 | 21/ |
| CENTRAL DIVISION | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Kansas City | 5 | 3 | .625 | - |
| Chicago | 4 | 3 | .571 | 1/ |
| Detroit | 4 | 4 | .500 | 1 |
| Minnesota | 4 | 4 | .500 | 1 |
| Cleveland | 3 | 5 | .375 | 2 |
| | | | | |

Pct .750 .667 Oakland Texas Seattle Los Angeles

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Toronto 8 Detroit 6
Tampa Bay 2 Texas 0
N.Y. Yankees at Cleveland (ppd.)
Baltimore at Boston
Minnesota at Kansas City
Oakland at L.A. Angels
Houston at Seattle

WEST DIVISION

Oakland at L.A. Angels Houston at Seattle THURSDAY'S GAMES — All times Eastern Tronto (Johnson 0-0) at Detroit (Fister 1-0), 1:05 p.m.

N.Y. Yankees (Hughes 0-1) at Cleveland (McAllister 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Tillman 0-0) at Boston (Aceves 0-0), 7:10 p.m.
Oakland (Griffin 1-0) at L.A. Angels (Vargas 0-0), 10:05 p.m.
Texas (Grimm 0-0) at Seattle (Hernandez 1-1), 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE
WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
St. Louis 10 Cincinnati 0
Arizona 10 Pittsburgh 2
San Francisco 10 Colorado 0
Chicago White Sox at Washington
NY. Mets at Philadelphia
Atlanta at Miami
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs (ppd.)
L.A. Dodgers at San Diego
THURSDAY'S GAMES — All times Eastern
San Francisco (Vogelsong 0-1) at Chicago
Cubs (Feldman 0-1), 2:20 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Axelrod 0-0) at
Washington (Haren 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Greinke 1-0) at San Diego
(Marquis 0-1), 10:10 p.m.

28

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

16

19

42

69

3. What The Kar-

5. Birds

6. Warrant

dashians mostly have,

7. What were Upper

Canada and Lower

Canada?: 2 wds.

___ _ of Eden" (1955)

23

38 39

46

26

50

33

32

53

59

41

45

T Aries

March 21 - April 20

You need to clear your mind of trivial thoughts and focus only on what really matters, with your career very much to the fore. The rest of the world can waste time on non-essentials.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

According to the planets, someone is abusing your good nature and you must get tough to make sure they stop. Just because you're a nice guy does not mean you're not allowed to get nasty once in a while.

II Gemini May 22 - June 21

There is something you need to take care of that cannot be delegated to other people. You may not enjoy it that much but you know it must be done. Get it over with now and the good times will soon begin.

9 Cancer

June 22 - July 23 Yes, someone has betrayed

your trust, but is it really such a big deal? Why not just forget about it and move on? If nothing else, others will realize you are not thin-skinned.

$\mathbf{\Omega}$ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

A little bit of effort will go a long way today but don't push too hard. Pace yourself according to your natural limits. Small victories will soon add up to major triumphs.

M Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

If you give up one thing today, you will gain something much more valuable in the long-term. But do you have the willpower to make the change? If you don't make it now, it may never be made.

△ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Try not to take what you hear today the wrong way. What you think is bad news may be nothing of the sort. You could just be creating an interpretation that doesn't exist.

M Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Other people seem unable to grasp even the most simple of instructions today, which is so frustrating. There is no point losing your temper as that will only make matters worse.

プ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Before you agree to new responsibilities, you should ask yourself how they might affect other areas of your life. Cash flow situation isn't everything. Time has value too.

り Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

No matter how tempting a social invitation may be, you must turn it down and do something less demanding. There are times when you like to be alone with your thoughts and this is one of them.

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Something you hear while listening in on someone else's conversation will intrigue you and make you want to know more, but you've got to be smart about it. You don't want them to know you're a snoop.

H Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

Some people have no shame and you will find yourself having to deal with one such individual today. Don't waste time trying to befriend them. Morally you are on different

planets. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

20

24

40

43

47

51

Across

- 1. Cod-like fish 5. Ancient insect trapping/preserving stuff 10. Halifax-born
- singer, Holly 14. Belgian imaging corporation
- 15. Glass: French 16. Singer Mr. Redd-
- ina 17. Pea: French 18. "Should

doorbell?"

- 19. __ and potatoes 20. Type of painting 22. 'Smarter Planet'
- sloganeer 24. Metres' li'l op-
- posites 25. __-inflammatory
- 26. BC river 30. Not that
- 32. The Ramayana heroine
- 34. 'Gran' add-on (Hiker's treat)
- 35. Hairy, like a lion 37. Very smart letters
- 38. Witch assembly 40. Culture medium
- 41. Wood sorrel 42. Hollywood great
- Gregory 43. Quick movie ap-
- pearance 45. Hi's opposites 46. Breath mints
- brand 47. 'Oct' add-on
- (Music†interval) 48. Think over
- 50. Month 51. Canadian bakery
- since 1882 53. Unwritten
- 55. Post-op locale 58. "Impressive!" 59. Canadian actress
- Kate 61. __-Levesque (Boulevard in Mont-

64. Chilliwack song:

84 85

68

18

21

25

48 49

31

52

- 66. Juniors = Jnrs/ Seniors = ? 67. Idea: French
- 68. Take _ __ breath 69. "Let __" by The Beatles: 2 wds.
- 70. Atmosphere

71. Actress, Parker ___ 72. Way [abbr.]

Down

- 1. Labrador community, __ Valley-Goose Bay
- 2. "Have _ __ time!" (Enjoy!)

8. 'West' suffix 9. Get-then-give the present

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

- 10. This thing:,
- 11. 'Capri' suffix
- 12. Fail (Irish
- coronation stone)
- 13. The bar on
- "Cheers", . 1895 21. Bug killer brand
- 23. Bric-a-
- 27. Parti Quebecois
- concern
- 28. Pick a politician
- 29. Colonel and
- Lieutenant 31. Not there
- 33. Varieties of
- apples 35. Parrot
- 36. Tequila plant
- source 37. Opinion
- 39. Unlock
- 44. 1847 Herman Melville story
- 46. Select/reject
- 49. Open a package
- 50. Clunker car
- 52. Shannon __ (Can-
- adian wife of rocker
- Gene Simmons)
- 54. Ms. Zellweger
- 56. Breads and pasta,
- e.q. 57. Not yet estab-
- lished
- 60. Egyptian Myth:
- Daughter of Geb 61. Coffee mug part
- 62. Tokyo, formerly 63. Prefix to 'lithic'
- 65. Ruckus

Yesterday's Crossword

| 0 | N | 'n | | *F | ů | "N | 'n | *Y | | Н | Ä | 1 | "K | - |
|----|------|------|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|---|
| Ή, | ·P | ĸ | | 1 | ٨ | . iu | R | A | | "E | T | Ť | E | |
| 14 | - 81 | ·Y | | " | L. | T | £ | - | | "ht | | T | A | 1 |
| "E | - jo | 3 | b | M | 8 | | | "6 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 0 | N | |
| "R | A | C | H | E | ű. | | Ť | R | Æ | T | 8 | | | |
| | | 'n | 0 | 15 | - 1 | °c | п | | ř | A | U | "c | 14 | |
| "S | °b | A | K | | T | W | 0 | 8 | | 70 | 6 | 0 | - 1 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | - 34 | | "c | н | t | M | 1 | 3 | 10 | | "H | Ŷ | |
| "G | R | E | "c | 0 | | "A | A | R | E | | *b | 0 | A | |
| | Ξt | R | A | C | "T | | °6 | £ | R | "М | A | N | | |
| | | | R | н | O | "D | E | | V | £ | 0 | A | "N | Ĭ |
| = | "E | "N | T | R | E | E | | | | "L | A | T | 1 | |
| 10 | 0 | F | 1 | A | | °M | "A | "Y | "B | E | | 10 | K | |
| "A | 1. | 1 | E | 164 | | 0 | -5 | 0 | I. | E | | Ö | K | |
| "p | A | D | R | | | "N | A | U | T | | | "N | 1 | 1 |

Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

| 3 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| В | 1 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| 5 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | B | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | В | 9 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| 2 | 9 | 3 | 7 | ñ | 1 | 5 | 6 | -6 |
| 7. | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 9 |
| ñ | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 3 |

| | 2 | | | | | | 8 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 9 | 4 | | 7 | | 6 | 3 | |
| 6 | | | 1 | | 9 | | | 5 |
| | | 5 | 2 | | 4 | 3 | | |
| | | 9 | 6 | | 7 | 5 | | |
| 4 | | | 8 | | 6 | | | 9 |
| | 3 | 1 | | 5 | | 8 | 6 | |
| | 5 | | | | | | 7 | |

Today * * * 1°/-2° * * Flurries 60%



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